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FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 2016

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EVEN AS USCIS SETS 2017 CW-1 CAP AT 12,998

'CNMI needs to tap available workforce'

By JON PEREZ jon_perez@saipantribune.com

than 2016 ov. Ralph DLG number Torres said the CNMI needs every bit of available workers to sustain the current economic surge that the Commonwealth is experiencing. He made the statement after the U.S. Department of Homeland Security set the fiscal year 2017 CNMI-Only Transitional Worker nonimmigrant visa cap to 12,998.

Torres said reducing next fiscal year's CW-1 cap was also part of the recommendations they made during the 902 talks with Office of Insular Affairs Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas

Esther Kia'aina leading the White House panel.

» Cap is 1 less

"An insignificant reduction to the FY 2017 Cap was one of the many recommendations we brought forth in the 902

See CNMI on Page 4

Chen's co-defendant testifies, govt rests

of group from

testifying for

defense

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com

A co-defendant of Zhaopeng Chen yesterday testified in federal court how they shipped

age of methamphetamine or "ice" that they concealed in one of nine paint buckets and about Chen's role in

picking up the drug shipment. Chen's co-defendant, Shicheng Cai, however, agreed with defense counsel

David G. Banes during crossexamination that he is not sure that Chen knew about the drug deal between Cai and another co-defendant, Xi Huang.

After Chen's co-defendant to Saipan from China a pack- Shicheng Cai completed his

testimony in >> Judge Manglona the ongoing disallows leader jury trial of Chen, assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe said the U.S. govern-

ment rests its case.

As this developed, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief KIDS PLAY

CUC: Gulick, DHS ignoring late governor's advice on CW-1 cap 'mind boggling'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. described as "mind boggling" U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services District 26 Director David G. Gulick and the Department of Homeland Security casually ignoring then-governor Eloy S. Inos' comments and » Sirok discloses DHS' confidential deal with CUC for 9 of its 13 affected **CW-1** workers



advice to reduce the previous year's CNMI-only transitional workers (CW-1) permits by a nominal one or to 13,998 for the Fiscal Year 2016 cap.

CUC, through counsel James S. Sirok, pointed out that Gulick and DHS instead, under the guise of exercising its "broad discretion," set a CW-1 cap number

See CUC on Page 4



See CHEN on Page 4 A group of elementary students have the time of their lives at the playground of the Saipan Seventh Day Adventist School campus yesterday.

INSIDE



LOCAL

Bernice Shane Sabino will represent the CNMI in the International Presentation Of Performers Talent Competition 2017 in Los Angeles, California.

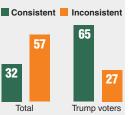
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LOCAL

Best Sunshine International, Ltd., a subsidiary of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC, has launched leadingedge "Party like a VIP in Paradise" packages.

PAGE 24



NATION

Donald Trump is retreating from his vow to deport the nation's entire population of people living in the country illegally, even as he sticks with an aggressive tone on illegal immigration.

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Local

Dental clinic owner ordered to explain non-prosecution of lawsuit vs ex-owner



U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona yesterday ordered the owner of Toothworks and Open Choice to show cause why the court should not dismiss for lack of prosecution his lawsuit filed in 2005 against the former owner of the clinic.

Manglona gave plaintiff Alan Stuart Markoff, owner of Toothworks and Open Choice, until Sept. 15, 2016 to respond to the order to show cause, or his lawsuit against Todd Keith Johnson will be dismissed with prejudice.

Dismissal with prejudice means Markoff cannot reopen the case anymore.

Manglona said that on April 20, 2006, the court stayed proceedings in Markoff's case due to parallel proceedings in a Texas state court.

The judge noted that more than 10 years have passed without notice from the parties as to the status of the Texas proceedings and without any other activity on the docket.

See DENTAL on Page 4



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Torres: Earthjustice lawsuit affects military's plans

By JON PEREZ jon_perez@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said the lawsuit filed against the military's proposal to conduct live-fire training facilities on the islands of Tinian and Pagan has affected their ongoing discussions for increased presence of U.S. forces in the CNMI.

Torres said he agrees with the concerns of the environmental groups and has renewed the administration's stand of opposing the military's original plans of using both islands as live-fire training facilities.

Last month, four environmental and cultural preservation groups filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Navy and Secretary Ray Mabus, and U.S. Department of Defense and Secretary Ashton Carter.

"I agree with all the concerns of these environmental groups and respect their decision of filing a lawsuit. Pagan was part of the military's proposal and we oppose what is being originally proposed," said Torres.

"I also instructed Department of Public Lands Secretary Marianne [Teregeyo] to move ahead with the homestead program that needs to be availed to locals up north."

The lawsuit also limited the U.S. military's statements in their ongoing talks with the CNMI government on their plans for the Commonwealth. "They are prohibited to talk because of the lawsuit. They would like to discuss some more issues but they are pro-

hibited to talk."

Torres said that the Earthjustice lawsuit is a private matter. "We didn't file the lawsuit. It is a private entity. Organizations and citizens who decided to file the lawsuit."

"The military are hesitant to discuss some information because of the lawsuit. It prohibits them from saying some issues during our meetings," added Torres.

He said that the goal of the CNMI delegation that went to Hawaii is just to observe how live-fire training is done. "Our goal there is to look at the facility and look how it is being done. And also make sure they know what our concerns are."

"In order for us to move forward on the military's plans, they must and need to know our concerns. We want our concerns to be heard and we would like to see an amended proposal."

Torres added that he fully supports the military but disagrees with what they have been proposing. We support the military, and that's why we signed the programmatic agreement for a divert airfield on Tinian."

"We support the men and women of our armed forces. At this point, I disagree with the plan in the original proposal. What's being proposed is something that we disagree with," he added.

Torres and members of the Tinian delegation went to the military's live-fire training facility in Kane'ohe Bay in Hawaii where they were shown small caliber types of munitions used like 50 cali-

"Amphibious training is also proposed. But for most part they wanted to show us that this is the training range. The more important is what they wanted to show is the military base can co-exist with locals. I don't disagree with that because it works for them."

"What is being proposed now, with what the people of Tinian are disagreeing. We emphasize again to the relationship that we have with the Covenant and not to divert from it."

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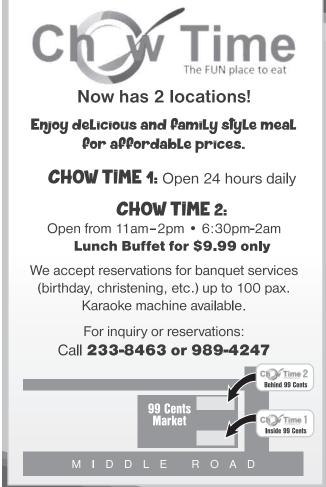
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CHEN

From Page 1

Judge Ramona V. Manglona did not allow Chen's other co-defendant, Xi Huang, to testify for the defense until a separate lawyer is appointed for Huang considering that he appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

After Manglona explained his rights, Huang said he wants to see a lawyer before testifying. Huang was taken to court after Banes summoned him to testify.

Manglona instructed the 13 jurors to come back today, Friday, at 9am, for the continuation of Chen's trial.

Defense counsel David G. Banes said he will call today, Friday, to the witness stand Drug Enforcement Administration special agent Kirk F. Johns, the lead investigator in the case.

Chen is on trial over the shipment of 4.9 lbs of methamphetamine or "ice" worth \$850,000 in 2015.

The indictment charged

Chen, Cai, and Huang with conspiracy with intent to distribute methamphetamine. Huang and Cai both pleaded guilty. Huang was recently slapped with 188 months imprisonment. Cai has yet to be sentenced.

At the resumption of Chen's trial yesterday, Cai testified that he is the brother-in-law of Huang's wife. He said Huang's wife asked him in China if he knows a person who could pick up a merchandise that will be eventually shipped to Saipan.

Cai said at first he did not understand what's the merchandise about but later learned it was "ice."

At the time, Cai said, he was driving for a company that deals with selling liquid gas in China

Cai said because he needed money at that time after he lost some money from gambling, he told Huang's wife he could do it—pick up the drugs.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

DENTAL

From Page 2

Manglona said "if a proceeding has been pending for more than six months without any action taken by the parties during that period, upon notice to the parties, the court may dismiss the proceeding for lack of prosecution."

Markoff sued Johnson over the sale of the clinic.

Markoff, through counsel Eric S. Smith, accused Johnson of misrepresenting the company's financial information that made the former decide to purchase the dental practice for \$525,000.

Smith alleged that Johnson had shown his client documents that falsely represented the history of deposits made by the clinic's patients and customers when they were negotiating the sale.

Smith said Markoff later learned that the amount stated in the consolidated deposits was overstated by approximately 25 percent. (Ferdie de la Torre)

CUC

From Page 1

drastically different from Inos' advice on July 2 and 8, 2015 based primarily on two newspaper articles published a few weeks earlier by "two young non-indigenous newspaper reporters with little if any knowledge of what would be in the best interests of the CNMI, its citizens and its business community."

In his declaration, Gulick admitted that DHS did not follow Inos' advice to reduce the previous year's CW-1 permits by a nominal one or to 13,998 for Fiscal Year 2016 cap. Nonetheless, Gulick says the late governor's views were considered in good faith in DHS' decision on the FY 2016 CW-1 cap of 12,999.

Gulick's declaration is being attached to support DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson's and co-defendants' brief in opposition to CUC's and its affected 13 foreign workers' motion for preliminary injunction.

Sirok discussed yesterday the CW-1 cap issue in CUC's and its 13 affected foreign workers' reply in support of their application for preliminary injunction.

Asserting that the U.S. District Court for the NMI has jurisdiction over CUC's and 13 workers' lawsuit against DHS and co-defendants, Sirok said DHS' conduct in setting the 2013 to 2016 annual CW-1 cap numbers is reviewable under the federal Administrative Procedure Act and that plaintiffs are likely to succeed on the merits of their complaint.

Sirok also disclosed that

nine of the 13 CW-1 plaintiffs are still working because of a confidential agreement with defendants.

Sirok said plaintiffs CUC and the 13 workers agreed with defendants' request to forego action on their temporary restraining order and to continue the hearing date to allow defendants further time to brief the injunctive relief motions.

The lawyer noted that it's the defendants that revealed the confidential agreement in their opposition to plaintiffs' motion for preliminary injunction

Sirok said defendants' argument that nine of the 13 CW-1 plaintiffs are not suffering harm because they are currently working is "deeply troublesome."

Sirok said for defendants to

now use the result of that confidential agreement against CUC and its affected workers is disingenuous.

Furthermore, the lawyer said, defendants know that the agreed upon work privilege is only temporary, based solely on issues related to the current motion practice, and is not a permanent solution to plaintiffs' claims in the lawsuit.

Sirok said DHS should first determine the eligibility for the exemption before summarily rejecting and returning the CW-1 petitions.

Sirok said by asking the federal court to refrain from action, defendants now seek to complete their efforts to unilaterally re-write provisions of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act in flagrant disregard for the checks and balances provided by the other

branches and agencies of the federal government.

To evade review of the court, he said, DHS now attempts to self-regulate its conduct via what it states is a "broad unreviewable authority" while flouting the APA's public notice and comment requirements for substantive administrative rules.

"This regulatory shell game, where the DHS Secretary's actions are purposefully designed to dodge accountability and transparency, must be stopped," Sirok said.

The lawyer said judicial review, along with a preliminary injunction, is the only effective antidote to DHS's lawless attempt to exceed the bounds of discretionary power, if any, granted to it under the Consolidated Natural Resources Act.

Sirok said defendants incor-

rectly argue that a preliminary injunction is not available to plaintiffs.

The lawyer said defendants' argumentative position is surprising in light of its knowledge that DHS was enjoined by a preliminary injunction in 2009 for failing to comply with the statutory requirements of the APA.

CUC and its 13 CW-1 workers are suing Johnson and others for not acting on their CW-1 permit renewals.

Plaintiffs CUC's and 13 CW-1 workers' motion for preliminary relief will be heard on Sept. 9, 2016 at 9am.

Aside from Johnson, plaintiffs are also suing U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Sarah R. Saldana, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Director Leon Rodriguez.

CNMI

From Page 1

consultations an subsequent dialogues I have had with US-CIS officials," said Torres.

"I am very pleased that they [DHS] have granted this request. It is critical, that while we are experiencing an economic resurgence, that we utilize all available labor to provide jobs and resources to our people."

Sablan, in a statement, said asking [DHS] to consider reducing the CW-1 cap to a small number was what he did early this year. "To minimize any economic harm during this period of growth in our tourism industry."

"The decision to reduce the cap by one for fiscal year 2017 demonstrates, once again, the care and attention given by [DHS] and [US-CIS] to ensure that the transition to federal immigration law in our islands is as least difficult as possible."

Torres added USCIS' minimal reduction of the CW-1 cap would secure that operations of some local businesses won't be interrupted and continue their development for 2017. The current issue of the CW-1 cap for the latter part of fiscal year 2016, before the USCIS released a deferred action, is a situation the govern-

ment is wanting to avoid of happening again.

"This minimal reduction will go a long way toward allowing business development to continue throughout the next year, more jobs to be created for our local population, and more resources to be provided to meet critical government obligations."

Torres added that his administration is fully supporting Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan's (Ind-MP) proposal of extending the transition period and the bill he filed at the U.S. House of Representatives, H.R. 5888.

CNMI officials want to extend the transition period for 10 years with the CW-1 program set to expire in 2019. Sablan's bill is also requesting extending the federally mandated phase out deadline to 2029.

"I am working closely with Congressman Sablan to push forward with the extension of the current transition period and it is my hope that we can work collaboratively with US-CIS and our local regulations to ensure that the tools are in place to ensure an adequate transition into the U.S. immigration system," said Torres.

Torres, who headed the CNMI panel in the 902 talks in June and last month, is hoping Sablan's bill would push through and passes U.S. Con-

gress since improved status were among the issues that they brought up when they met in Washington, D.C. and in Hawaii.

The Torres administration would continue to work toward hiring and training the local workforce, which was what the U.S. Congress wants. They are also hoping that employers would make the decision of transitioning to a more sustainable long-term visa options.

If ever the CNMI gets the 10-year extension, the administration will mobilize all available resources to meet the goals and requirements under the federal law—hire more U.S. workers and transition jobs from CW-1 workers to the alternative visa classification.

The next round of 902 talks will be held on Saipan with administration officials finalizing the details of the meeting like schedule and venue. A final report of the 902 talks will be made where copies will be given to Torres, the CNMI Legislature, and U.S. President Barrack Obama before going to the U.S. Congress.

The report, which will be open to the public, is a compilation of the issues, recommendations, and other things that were discussed in the 902 talks.

Transition

Hotel Association of the

Northern Mariana Islands chair Gloria Cavanagh also hailed the DHS decision. "By law, the cap has to be reduced. We are happy that DHS has considered our labor situation and given us the most minimal reduction of one."

She said that a lot of their member hotels have various programs like establishing partnership with Latte Training Academy and the Northern Marianas Trades Institute in the hopes to hire and recruit their graduates.

"In addition, most of us do a lot of in-house training for our existing staff. All hotels have been actively hiring local and U.S. people. However, this pool of labor is still very limited. What we are finding is that we are a lot of times hiring from each other," said Cavanagh.

"With all the new restaurants and even with the opening of Kensington [Hotel], we are experiencing high turnover of employees. For positions that we just can't keep staffed, we have resorted to hiring outside services. However, they too are suffering from the same labor woes."

She added that some hotels had started applying some of their workers to H1 visas since it takes a lot of time to process. "However, we are receiving denials. For those that have foreign offices,

they avail themselves to L visas and not many are in the situation to do so."

Cavanagh said HANMI has 11 member hotels that have close to 1,700 direct employees not including the temporary services with 51 percent of their labor force are guest workers.

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Velma Palacios also thanked the DHS for reducing the CW-1 cap numerical limit by one for the next fiscal year and considering the recommendations made by Torres and Sablan.

"The fiscal year 2017 CW-1 cap of 12,998 will not maintain all the existing [guest] workers. It will continue to allow businesses to transition their CW-1 workers who are eligible for other visa categories.

She added that their members have also started to apply their existing CW-1 workers to other applicable U.S. visa categories. "We continue to encourage our members to use the CW-1 program for job categories not eligible for H1, H2, or other visas."

"At the same time, our members are making efforts to recruit and train through in-house training programs and partnerships with local residents. We need a sustainable workforce to support our growing economy," said Palacios.

Long-term solution needed

Local activist Glenn D. Hunter said a long-term solution is still needed to grant improved status to some guest workers. And these is what they, he and other concerned citizens, discussed early this year.

"In June we gathered hundreds of concerned citizens and mounted numerous gatherings. Thankfully our local government listened and responded forcefully. They altered their 902 position and requested an immediate administrative fix along with a long term solution to grant improved status to long-term workers," said Hunter.

He added that the action just shows things can be done. "Everyday citizens and our local government leaders did their best to demand that their federal government take immediate action. This latest administrative action demonstrates that things can be accomplished without U.S. legislative action and without waiting on a new president."

"We must look at the near future and begin demanding that improved status be granted to those long-term workers that still remain in the CNMI. It is the right thing to do and it will beyond the right time," said Hunter.

Sabino to compete in iPOP in LA



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

International Presentation Of Performers CNMI champion Bernice Shane Sabino is flanked by second placer Donato "DJ" Santiago, left, and third placer Lawrence Tubera.

Bernice Shane Sabino will represent the CNMI in the International Presentation Of Performers Talent Competition 2017 in Los Angeles, California after winning the local edition of the tilt last Saturday.

The 10-year-old Sabino won the International Presentation Of Performers CNMI champion, dubbed iPOP CNMI, held last Aug. 13 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center in Susupe.

Donato "DJ" Santiago placed second, while Lawrence Tubera was third place.

Sabino's mother, Sheryl, said she is overflowing with pride and happiness because of her daughter's latest achievement.

"I am so happy. It feels like a dream come true for my daughter because she always dreams of going to other countries," said the elder Sabino.

Bernice Sabino, however, always had big plans for herself competitively.

"She keeps on asking me when she would be joining big competitions," said Sheryl swelling with pride. "When we had the chance, we told her to just do her best."

Besides winning the 2016 iPOP CNMI, Bernice has also won other competitions such as the CNMI's Got Talent and the Marianas Idol.

Jessica Castro, the event coordinator of iPOP CNMI, said that the iPOP CNMI event was a way to showcase the pool of talents the CNMI had to offer.

IPOP is a talent competition that is held twice a year showcasing various talents, mainly acting, dancing, singing, and modeling. (Erwin Encinares)







DIOCESE OF CHALAN KANOA

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Protocol No. 006-01

21 August 2016 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastoral Letter:

"Give thanks to the Lord for He is Good!"

To the clergy, religious, and the People of God of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, may the blessings and peace of Jesus Christ be with you all!

The Episcopal Ordination which we celebrated last Sunday, on our observance of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, was a fruit of the fervent and unceasing prayer of the people of Chalan Kanoa for a new shepherd. As I have mentioned repeatedly since my appointment, this is not about me but is about the people of God and the faithfulness of Jesus, the Good Shepherd who never leaves His flock unattended. I am humbled by the trust given to me by our Holy Father Pope Francis, as I am fully aware of my weaknesses and sinfulness as a person. In the spirit of obedience, I gladly accept the office in the spirit of humble service to God and his Church.

"Give Thanks to the Lord for He is good, His mercy endures forever" (cf. Ps. 107:1)

The Episcopal Ordination is truly a sign of the mercy of God towards our diocese in this Great Jubilee Year of Mercy. As previously announced, I chose as my Episcopal motto the passage from the Gospel of John: "Volumus lesum Videre" (We would like to see Jesus, cf. Jn. 12:21) because I recognize the importance of 'seeing' and more importantly, being able to see down deep. In these days, seeing these events unfolding before me leads me to a spirit of thanksgiving, first of all to God.

My sincere thanks and appreciation goes to Bishop Emeritus Tomas A. Camacho and my brother priests in the diocese. As an Apostolic Administrator and in these past years, I have had the privilege to serve and work with you. In my capacity now as your bishop, may we be united in our dedication and commitment to serve our people and to reach out to those who wish to see, to encounter and to know Jesus.

To all the people of the Commonwealth, I also extend my sincerest appreciation for all your prayers and support since the news of my appointment as your new bishop. Your recent contribution to the events leading up to and including the Episcopal Ordination provided for a joyful celebration in the history of our diocese. Thank you very much for all you have done and continue to do in our journey as brothers and sisters in Christ.

In closing, please keep me in your prayers as I keep you in my heart and prayers.

God Bless You!

In Chris

Most Reverend Ryan P. Jimenez, D.D. Bishop of Chalan Kanoa



5 Facts about

Sugar-Sweetened Beverages



Sources: kickthecan.org • publichealthadvocacy.org • Boston Public Health Commission

By ERWIN ENCINARES

Randy Yates, the new principal of Saipan Seventh Adventist School, wants to upgrade the school premises in order to provide a better learning experience for the students of the Christian school.

Yates agrees that in order to further provide a worthy learning experience for each and every student of the school, the school would have to accommodate more students due to the large waiting list of the Child Development Center Program.

"We had a planning meeting with our board last Tuesday and we have already been given approval to build four more classrooms unto our school and also to build a gym," said Yates in an interview yesterday with Saipan Tribune at the Saipan SDA school premises. "We have a large wait list, especially in the child development Center Program."

The waiting list of SDA is large enough to fit into three of the additional four classrooms. "If I had more classrooms, I could already open three more classes,' said Yates.

The SDA School has also acquired permission from the CNMI government for the building of these additional amenities. "We already have gotten an approval by the Commonwealth to build the four classrooms. Hopefully we'll get that started pretty soon," said Yates.

Yates' main goal is to give back to the society by means of education. "We want to fulfill the need of the community," said Yates. "We are a community school, so we want to reach out to the community and to work with them, to see some of the challenges that they have, and see how we could help them. We are here on Saipan to teach our children, our students, about the love of God and about Jesus, and to help them become better Christians."

The SDA is also accepting international students, as included in their academic curriculum is the English Language Learners program, which allows students with little to no knowledge of the language improve over time through tutoring and full exposure to the language.

Yates is currently taking up his doctorate degree in Special Education at Texas Women's University.

Yates has a Masters Degree in Education and also has Masters level work in Communications. Having taught all levels from prekindergarten all the way up to university-level students and between, Yates has professional experience spanning over 30 years including experience in administration, educational radio, and television management.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

ATTN: US Pacific Holdings Corp FROM: Law Office of Robert T. Torres

The Thomasa P. Coleman Trust has served notice upon you requiring either a cure of a breach of your lease of the following property or return of possession of that property by posting that notice upon such property:

Saipan property containing an area of 305,115.00 square meters as described in the Lease Agreement of January 23, 1981 for that property, leased by Thomasa P. Coleman to Hong Kong Saipan Plantation Investment Company Limited (Lease No. 941, Book 1, Page 22, Document No. 15518 at Land Registry, Saipan, recorded on January 26, 1981), whose lease interest was assigned to MAC Homes on October 13, 1996 via an (File No. 86-2460, recorded Dec. 22, 1986, Commonwealth Recorder's Office), whose interest was subsequently assigned to Ken Aqua Hotel & Resort, Inc. via the Assignment of Leases of July 29, 2004 (File No. 04-1729, Book 12, Page 114, Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, recorded on July 29, 2004), and whose interest was subsequently assigned to US Pacific Holdings Corp. via the Assignment for Lease of February 28, 2013 (File No. 13-0810, Book 16, Page 48, Recorder's Office, Saipan).

Our office is attempting to contact you to receive a copy of this notice. Please retrieve a copy of this notice at the property or contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres at (670) 234-7859 to arrange for receipt of a copy of this notice.

This is a supplemental notice of your breach and 15 days to cure from August 30, 2016. The original notice was posted upon the property on said date.

CUC waiting for executive director candidate to accept offer

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is set to name a new executive director with the two-year contract now being drafted, pending a background check and drug test. Tim Berringer was chosen by the board to become the utilities' next executive director, but he is still reviewing the terms of the contract.

CUC board vice chair Eric San Nicolas said they held the final interview yesterday at the CUC conference room at the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building. "This is the second round of interview and we have all the board."

"The entire board, unanimously, is satisfied with the result of the interview. We're satisfied with the outcome that's why we decided to make him an offer. We are just hoping he would accept the offer as we are looking forward to work with him."

CUC legal counsel James Sirok is tasked to prepare the contract where Berringer will be offered an annual salary of \$155,000 for two years. "Everything is not yet final and we're still in the negotiation process. If he accepts the offer and is hired he will have a contract for two years.'

He said that Berringer is one of the two candidates who applied for the position.

San Nicolas added the CUC board nearing to close the deal for an executive director debunks the comments made against them that they are not doing anything to fill the position.

He added that Berringer is the one vetted by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as he meets the standard set by them and the CUC board. "We have not ostracized the EPA contrary to comments made by Rep. [Lorenzo I.] Deleon Guerrero.'

He said that the board is just making sure they act on what is stipulated on certain provisions in the search for the executive director. "We've been actively moving along. This pacifies all the critics that say we are not doing our job as a board."

San Nicolas said the CUC board is hoping Berringer would make a decision as soon as possible so he could "become part of the that would lead the CUC in accomplishing its mission. He would be a great addition to the team in leading CUC and the CNMI move forward."

The Iowa-native Berringer is a professional engineer and has more than 20 years of experience working in the energy industry. He is a biomedical engineering graduate from the University of Iowa.

mer director of Edmond Elec-

Berringer, who was a for- some of CUC's power plants and yesterday visited the tric in the city of Edmond in wastewater division with act-Oklahoma, has already toured ing executive director Gary

Camacho.

He was also an electrical design manager with the Nebraska-based Union Pacific

com. His previous experience also include in the field of utilities, distribution planning,

Railroad according to newsok. power plants, rate structures, electrical studies, economic analysis, field personnel, and budgets. (Jon Perez)











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T Galleria to host Jacoulet art exhibit

T Galleria, in collaboration with the Northern Marianas Humanities Council and Rosanna Perez Barcinas, is hosting an art exhibit of artist Paul Jacoulet's woodblock prints and water colors this month.

Paul Jacoulet was a French artist whose works were inspired by

The exhibit will include high-resolution reproductions of art done of people in the CNMI during Jacoulet's visits beginning in the 1930s.

In preparation for the exhibit, the council has launched a Facebook page

specifically for Jacoulet's works titled, "Paul Jacoulet in Micronesia." The page includes photos from the presentation given by Dr. Don Rubinstein, earlier this year in April, as well as images of "The Rainbow Series."

The council invites the community to visit the Facebook page and tag photos of Jacoulet's subjects who they may be related to.

For more information, please call Council staff at 235-4785 or send ane-mail to northernmarianashumanities@gmail.com. (*PR*)

Cruz's 'Cut, Cap, and Balance' plan passes by 14–1 vote

HAGÅTÑA, Guam—By a bipartisan majority of 14-1, the Guam Legislature officially voted to cut, cap, and balance the government's budget with the passage of Substitute Bill No. 250-33 (COR) (SB250) this afternoon, continuing its conservative approach in Fiscal Year 2017 (FY2017). The budget measure, as substituted, cuts \$55 million from the Gov. Eddie Calvo's proposed General Fund spending plan, caps future borrowing by reducing the government of Guam's debt ceiling, and ensures that revenues remain at realistic levels—offering a far more fiscally conservative plan than originally proposed by the executive branch.

"Our 'Cut, Cap, and Balance' plan received overwhelming bipartisan support today because my colleagues realized that a balanced budget is more important than partisan politics," said Cruz. "I want to thank every member of the Guam Legislature for their help and hard work. Together, we built a strong budget based on conservative revenues."

Cruz maintains that the budget bill, as adopted by both sides of the aisle, reflects realistic revenue projections and "moderate growth" in line with the forecasts of Guam's economic experts, while still

covering all existing government personnel requirements. Moreover, the FY2017 budget adopts conservative revenues, unanimously accepted by members of the Legislature during this year's budget deliberations.

"For the second consecutive year, my colleagues kept faith with what our parents taught us: spend less, save more, and don't make promises you can't keep," said Cruz. "This budget shows that senators separated by party can be united by common sense. Our people should be proud."

Additionally, the appropriations chair notes that SB250 continues to furnish Calvo with the flexibility needed to address priorities within the executive branch. The substitute measure grants the Governor lump-sum appropriations and expanded transfer authority—providing extraordinary tools for effectively managing the government's resources.

"When so much of our politics is centered on conflict, I am humbled by the cooperation extended to me by each of my colleagues—Republican and Democrat. I thank them for their trust and support," concluded Cruz. "I now ask Governor Calvo to join in our bipartisan effort and sign our budget into law." (PR)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

NMC test vouchers for A+ and N+ certification available

The Northern Marianas College-Community Development Institute (CDI) has announced that test vouchers are available for those individuals who had attended the College's IT Bootcamp conducted earlier this summer.

The vouchers, which are for the A+ and N+ certification tests, will be emailed to those who attended the IT Bootcamp; the vouchers can also be obtained by calling the CDI office at 237-6802. The College also announced that the Pearson Vue testing center will be ready to receive appointments for test takers in late September. Please call 670-237-6802 for further questions. (PR)

'Dreams Fan Fiction' winners on Your **Humanities Half-Hour**

High school students Kye Tamm and Brianna Hunter will be featured guests on this Sunday's "Your Humanities Half-Hour" radio program.

Tamm and Hunter were the top two finishers in the recently held Dreams Fan Fiction contest which attracted entries from 15 student authors.

"Fan Fiction" is fiction about characters or settings from an original work of fiction, created by fans of that work rather than by its creator.

The contest, which organizers hope to turn into an annual event, aims to inspire young authors in the CNMI.

"Your Humanities Half-Hour," which airs each Sunday from 2pm to 2:30pm on Power 99 is hosted by Catherine Perry Harris. (PR)

Financial conference set at Sept. 15-16

Bank of Guam, the Commonwealth Development Authority, and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce are hosting a financial conference on Sept. 15 and 16, 2016.

This two-day event is aimed at strengthening the CNMI by addressing challenges and proposing suggestions for improved fiscal support of our business community. Panelists will offer their expertise and experience on key issues.

You may register for this conference by contacting the Chamber office at administrator@saipanchamber.com or by calling 670-234-7150.

Space is limited so please contact us as soon as possible. Admittance for registered attendees is free, and has been generously sponsored Bank of Guam, United Airlines, Deloitte & Touche LLP, Mc-Donalds Saipan, and Pacific Pancakes CNMI LLC. (PR)

'14JS' jury selection cancelled

This is to inform all prospective jurors on panel "14JS" that the Jury Selection scheduled for Tuesday. Sept. 6, at 8:30am in Courtroom 220A is hereby cancelled until further notice. For further information please contact deputy clerk Daisy Mendiola at the Superior Court at 236-9769. (PR)

Lower Base Transfer Station, Marpi Landfill closed on Monday

In observance of Labor Day on Monday, Sept. 5, 2016, both the Lower Base Transfer Station and the Marpi Landfill waste disposal facilities will be closed all day. (PR)

Naval Base Guam to resume Trusted Traveler Program

SANTA RITA, Guam—U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) will resume its Trusted Traveler Program effective 5pm today.

The Trusted Traveler program authorizes Department of Defense (DoD) ID card holders to escort guests onto NBG.

The program was temporarily suspended for the annual Commander, Naval Installations Command anti-terrorism exercise Citadel Pacific 2016, held this week.

The program authorizes registered vehicle drivers/ operators who present a valid DoD ID card to vouch for all occupants of their vehicle when entering the base. Trusted Travelers will not be permitted to vouch for visitors in another vehicle, nor will Trusted Traveler apply to personnel entering the base by means other than a vehicle.

The following ID cardholders are authorized to be Trusted Travelers:

■ Uniformed service member or federal government employee with a valid Common Access Card (CAC)

■ Military retiree with a valid Department of Defense (DoD) identification credential

■ Dependent older than 16-years-old with a valid DoD identification credential

Contractors and vendors may not act as Trusted Travelers.

All visitors are reminded to have a valid photo ID with

them at all times since 100 percent ID checks may be conducted at any time in accordance with random antiterrorism and force protection measures. The Trusted Traveler program may be suspended if force protection conditions change or at the discretion of the commanding officer. (PR)



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Participants of the CNMI Motheread/Fatheread Family Literacy Program's Parent Trainer's and Story Exploring Instructor's Meeting last Aug. 27 pose for a group photo at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

GRANDVRIO RESORT

Welcome to enjoy fantastic buffet at our "Tropicana Restaurant" (2nd floor of Taga Tower)! Performance is available on Sunday Brunch. "Seafood & Sushi night" dinner buffet every Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. All you can eat and drink! Champagne, beers.

Breakfast: 7:00am-10:00am * Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm *Sunday Brunch: 11:00am-2:00pm *Dinner: 5:30pm-9:00pm

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				9/1	9/2 Buffet Lunch \$14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	9/3 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)
8/4 Sunday Brunch \$22	9/5 Buffet Lunch \$14 (Additional)	9/6 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	9/7 Buffet Lunch \$14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	9/8	9/9 Buffet Lunch \$14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	9/10 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)
9/11 Sunday Brunch \$22	9/12	9/13 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	9/14 Buffet Lunch \$14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	9/15	9/16 Buffet Lunch \$14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	9/17 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)
9/18 Sunday Brunch \$22	9/19	9/20 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	9/21 Buffet Lunch \$14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	9/22	9/23 Buffet Lunch \$14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	9/24 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)
9/25 Sunday Brunch \$22	9/26	9/27 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	9/28 Buffet Lunch \$14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	9/29	9/30 Buffet Lunch \$14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	

- Our "Polphin" restaurant (10th floor of Crystal Tower in Grandvrio Resort Saipan) has reopened as A-La-Carte restaurant. Welcome to enjoy fast & nice Lunch Menu (\$8~) and authentic e Shabu Shabu or Sukiyaki for your dinner (\$35). "Spectacular Ocean view and Sunset!" Open time: Everyday Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm Last Order: 1:30pm / Dinner 5:30pm-9:00pm
- "Starlight BBQ" Dinner Buffet Location: Poolside Price: Reg. AD \$39 CH: \$19 (Local: AD \$35/CH \$17) Business hrs: 6:00-9:00pm
- Come and taste delicious curry & sandwich set (\$7,00 only), cake, café latte, organic smoothies... with unique ocean view at our "Airi Coffee Lounge". Pizza Set (\$10.00) available now!!

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CNMI MOTHEREAD/FATHEREAD FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM

Parent Trainer's, Story Exploring Instructor's meeting held at JKPL

The CNMI Motheread/Fa- Kiyu Public Library classes are theread Family Literacy Program conducted a Parent Trainer's and Story Exploring Instructor's Meeting at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library on Saipan last Saturday, Aug. 27.

Trainers and instructors actively participated in an Adult Class utilizing the Eagle Book Series written by Georgia Perez, which include: Through the Eyes of the Eagle, Knees Lifted High, Plate Full of Color, and Tricky Treats. The purpose of the Eagle Books is to help children understand several important messages about diabetes and being healthy:

Many Americans, including Native people, no longer eat traditional diets or practice vigorous physical activity.

Type 2 diabetes can be a consequence of this lifestyle change.

Returning to healthy diet and physical activity can help prevent diabetes.

Friends and families can help each other to prevent diabetes by eating healthy foods and staying active.

A special thank you to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems and Maternal & Child Health Bureau for their assistance in CNMI Motheread/Fatheread's Eagle Book acquisition.

Also discussed in the trainer's meeting were the Comprehensive Adult Systems and Assessment (CASAS) testing, which is the most widely used competency-based assessment system in the United States designed to assess the relevant real world basic skills of adult learners. CASAS measures the real basic skills and the English language and literacy skills needed to function effectively at work and in life. Interested participants of the CNMI Motheread/Fatheread Family Literacy Classes are invited to sign up for CASAS testing upon registration. This testing is free and available to all CNMI Motheread/Fatheread participants in partnership with Northern Marianas College's Adult Basic Education Program.

We are offering the following class schedule for the CNMI Head Start Centers and the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library this upcoming fall. Families are welcome to join and children ages 4 years old to 11 years old may participate in the Story Exploring Class. (Note: Motheread/Fatheread Joetenadults only sessions):

- Joaquina M. RabaulimanHead Start Center (Garapan) every Monday, starting Sept. 12, 2016 from 5:30pm to 6:30pm and ending Oct. 24.
- Oleai and Dan Dan Head Start Centers every Tuesday, starting Sept. 6, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm and ending Oct. 25.
- Chalan Kanoa and Kagman Head Start Centers every Wednesday, starting Sept. 7, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm and ending Oct. 26.
- Tanapag and San Antonio Head Start Centers every Thursday, starting Sept. 8, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm and ending Oct. 27
- Joeten-Kiyu Public Library every Tuesday, starting Sept. 6, from 10:30am to 11:30am and ending Oct. 25.

Motheread Inc. is a nationally acclaimed private, nonprofit organization that combines the teaching of literacy skills with child development and family empowerment issues. Parents and children learn to use the power of language to discover more about themselves their families, and their communities.

Motheread offers classes for both the adults and children. In adult classes, participants learn to be story readers, writers, and tellers in a group structure that supports their own sense of worth and ability. These classes are appropriate for all adults, regardless of reading ability or prior educational experience. By teaching the "why" of reading rather than just emphasizing the "how," classes encourage parents to be reading role models for their children. For children, Story Exploring provides a structured environment for learning reading, critical-thinking, and problem solving skills. CNMI Motheread/Fatheread Family Literacy Program is administered by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council and is conveniently located in the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

Schedules for interested private schools and organizations/agencies could be arranged by contacting Viola Deleon Guerrero, Beth Demapan, or Bryan Manabat at Tel:235-7319/989-8542/783-7678/285-9666 or e-mail: cnmimotheread@gmail.com or instagram @cnmimotheread or visit our website at https://sites.google.com/site/ cnmimothereread/. (PR)

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 **11**





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Green Gala title sponsor DFS T-Galleria's president Division Marian Aldan-Pierce. standing third from left, and staff present their cash and couture handbag contributions to Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance board members and staff. The handbags will be part of MINA's Green Gala silent auction.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO





Jewell to lead US delegation at World Conservation Congress in Hawaii

>>> Will discuss

that sustainable

global action on

climate change

future means

HONOLULU, HAWAII—U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell will lead the United States delegation this week to the 2016 International Union for Conservation of Nature's World Conservation Congress, a worldwide forum that meets every four years to set global priorities for environmental agreements, con-

servation and sustainable development.

Jewell will deliver the opening remarks for the Congress at 4pm EDT on

Thursday, Sept. 1 (Friday, Sept. 2, CST), focusing on the need for global action on climate change, ecosystem conservation and the benefits of protected areas to international identities, cultures and sustainability.

Jewell will also participate in the Congress' Public Forum Panel entitled "Planet at a Crossroads: Move to Action" on Friday, Sept. 2 at 4:30pm EDT to discuss the urgent challenges facing global ecosystems due to climate change and how global leaders can work to achieve sustainable development and climate neutrality.

As part of the Congress, on Friday, Sept. 2, Jewell will host her own panel discussion designed to introduce the youth conservation service corps model to an international audience and inspire replication in communities around the world. The panel discussion will be followed by a service project for all panelists and attendees led by Kupu, a local conservation corps. Jewell will also make an announcement with CoalitionWILD related to investing in the next generation of young professionals interested in working in the

field of conservation.

The Congress is expected to convene more than 5,000 participants from around the globe representing governments, non-governmental organizations, and civil society to discuss approaches for conservation and sustainable development.

Jewell will also provide re-

marks on the need for ocean sustainability and protected marine areas, part of a parallel Sustainability Summit, occurring

in conjunction with the Word Conservation Congress and hosted by the East West Center and IUCN. The Summit is meant to recognize conservation leaders and highlight the link between sustainability and philanthropy.

While in Hawaii, Jewell will also visit Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park to continue the celebration of the park's and the National Park Service's (NPS) Centennial year and the one-year anniversary of the Every Kid in a Park initiative. While in the park, Jewell will receive briefings from NPS and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) scientists who manage the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory to learn about the latest advances in scientific research for volcano monitoring while also gaining a better understanding of how the park manages a diverse and rewarding visitor experience on an active volcanic site. Jewell will also meet with Google staff and take a virtual tour of Hawai'i Volcanoes and other national parks called The Hidden Worlds of the National Parks. NPS, USGS and USDA biologists will also brief the Secretary on the threat of Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death to island forests. (PR)

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 **13**

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14 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Opinion



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EDITORIAL

Did Lucy fall? Or was she pushed?

news bulletin from 3.2 million years ago (or so): Lucy, humanity's famous ancestor, may have died not from old age but from a long fall out of a tree. She flung out her arms to try to break her fall and was conscious when she hit the ground. But she likely died almost immediately from severe internal injuries.

Those are the intriguing conclusions from a team of gumshoe scientists who used modern technology to probe Lucy's demise.

Lucy, aka AL 288-1, consists of many fragments of bone fossils, or about 40 percent of a female skeleton of the species Australopithecus afarensis. The scientists put Lucy's bones in a CT scanner and created virtual fragments and three-dimensional models to piece together a more precise idea of Lucy's entire skeleton.

In a study published Monday in the journal Nature, the scientists reported that they had found severe fractures in Lucy's upper right arm, shoulder and knee — injuries that couldn't have been the result of a trip and a fall from a short distance (Lucy was only about 3 feet tall so she didn't have far to fall).

If so, the discovery could provide a key clue to how and when humanity's ancestors abandoned the trees. Some researchers suggest that by Lucy's time, human ancestors weren't as adept in the trees because they had set up shop on the ground. If Lucy did fall from a tree, it could bolster that argument.

But some scientists dispute the Nature finding, arguing that the authors haven't convincingly made their case about whether Lucy's bones broke before or after her death.

"Elephant bones and hippo ribs appear to have the same kind of breakage," paleoanthropologist Donald Johanson, the original discoverer of Lucy in 1974, told The New York Times. "It's unlikely they fell out of a tree."

Awww ... snap!

Yes, the saga of Lucy, once relegated to the dusty corridors of academic debate, has now become the World's Oldest and Coldest Case File. And it is a doozy.

If Lucy tumbled from a tree, the question is: Why?

Did she have a nightmare that she'd left home without her pants (Oops! Sorry, that's one of ours).

Why would an experienced tree-climber, who purportedly spent many nights in trees to avoid large, hungry predators, suddenly find herself plummeting to the ground?

In other words: Did Lucy fall? Or was she pushed? Scientists love a good mystery. So do we.

How Lucy lived and died is one of the oldest in the books, and one of the most compelling for humankind.

"We can empathize with her in death, and what we think was her last desperate act, reaching out her hands to break her fall," University of Texas paleoanthropologist John Kappelman, lead Nature author, tells us. "I've lectured on this fossil for 30 years, but in her death she came to life for ma"

Kappelman invites amateur gumshoe-anthropologists to See LUCY on Next Page



\$400K mess in perspective

he lawsuit I filed against the MV Luta (\$400,000) is to protect all taxpayers' from the illegal expropriation or willful plundering of their taxes by corrupt politicians on imperial Capital Hill.

Mind boggling though how a lawmaker (then Sen. Biktot Hokog) took his oath of office to uphold the laws of the land but quickly exited invoking narcissistic and statist tendencies to screw the taxpayers. As a lawmaker he violated the following:

1. The Open Government Act that prohibits being direct beneficiary or his family on issues he's pushed as a legislator.

2. Constitutional dictates that clearly lays out how public funds are appropriated.

Public funds are for "public" not "private" purposes. The \$400,000 was illegally expropriated via a resolution schemed by evil genius Hokog done expeditiously by a delegation not the legislature. If the Luta Mermaid needed initial capitalization why didn't principals procure their loan from CDA?

Evidently, did the AG review Local Act of 1983 for legal guidance? Your boss Raffy used it in his veto of a recent local appropriation. He simply confirmed the crux of my lawsuit. He specifically pointed out that appropriations must come via legislation, not resolution! He slammed his foot squarely into Biktot's mouth!

Ocops! The answer to the senseless posturing by the administration and AG has devolved into a cocoon of political concessions that require complicity for the wont of a judgeship. Oh, this confirms my suspicion of yet another very unsettling and creeping controversy I shall reveal in due time. Filthy!

Assistant AG Lillian Tenorio said that Larissa Larson isn't an attorney. Well, Ms. Tenorio, how you are the government attorney. Yet, you blatantly failed to dispense of your legal duties in this instance. The jaw dropping irony is in your audacity representing people who violated constitutional and statutory laws of the NMI.

Recusal would have upheld the role of the AG in ascertaining that the laws of the NMI are followed. It's patently clear that the AG chose otherwise!

You also braved that Ms. Larson's egregious violation of law was "reasonable mistake." Eh, \$400,000 in plundered taxpayers' money is no small coke fund, right?

You've emboldened Ms. Larson to think that she's done right. Isn't Ms. Larson supposed to be conversant of her fiduciary duty? Furthermore, as an astute law student isn't it true that "ignorance of the law isn't an excuse" to violate it?

Halo? Moreover, why is the AG's Office representing Biktot Hokog who engineered the illegal plundering of the \$400K as a

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



senator? This was doubled down when Larson released it without an appropriation.

Who's the aggrieved party in this case anyway, Ms. Tenorio? Isn't it the undersigned and ALL taxpayers NMI-wide? No wonder trust in government is at an all time low!

Reminder: A person of responsibility would have seen red flags popping up all over the place when the instruction came to release the \$400,000. Stunning that it was followed with servility. Was it hard securing answers, e.g., is there an appropriation to support it? If it were intended as a loan, did it meet muster of "public" purpose? There's just sheer incompetency, if not, complicity at every turn to screw the taxpayers!

Sifting through the maze

We sit and ponder what's coming down the pike in terms of military build-up on Tinian and Pagan. Other than environmental studies, we haven't seen any plans detailing what the Department of Defense plans to build or the extent of some meaningful partnership.

Former Sen. Dave Cing raised the need to address this and other collateral issues so we get an idea of the magnitude of military plans, installation timeline, and our future in the defense of our country.

Sandwiched in this package are Sino-investments slated to boost tourism over the long haul. As we embrace the investments we quiz the occasional escalation of tension between the US and China over hegemony or control of the sea-lanes, a vital trade route, in the South China Sea. Is it grandstanding or would there emerge a single maritime superpower—U.S. or China?

There was hope, following arbitration from The Hague, that China would respect the decision in favor of claims by the Philippines. But it seems to have become a textbook case of the limitations of international justice. It never mattered to China.

See \$400K on Next Page

What's important?

've been weeding some old books out of my shelves. Something I noticed about the management genre is that the best books are usually the ones that gave the simplest advice. Here's one common insight that's so simple it hardly seems worth printing: "Decide what's important and what's not important."

That wisdom is phrased in various ways, but the gist is clear enough. It's so clear and so obvious that I used to roll my eyes at it. Something so simple seemed to lack sophistication. Who wants to be unsophisticated?

Well, maybe I do. I've noticed, as the decades have gone by, that most bad management decisions are rooted in the failure to heed the simple distinction between important and not important.

I've also noticed that this advice can stretch, or shrink, to just about any situation. It applies whether we're managing our time, managing a household, managing a labor force, or even managing ships or aircraft. We're all managers of some kind, even if we don't think of ourselves as managers.

One reason that non-important things seem to get a lot of attention is that they're often the easier choices. In home life, it's easier to sit on the couch and watch TV than to exercise. In a business context, it's easier to watch a computer screen than to visit the field operations to see what's really going on. Some cruel trick of nature seems to have made the important things the ones we're least inclined to choose, while the unimportant ones are more comfortable or fun.

Another reason that the non-important can prevail is that other people with other agendas can put pressure on us to switch our priorities. If you're in a safety-critical job, for example, the higher-ups might pressure you to cut corners so they can save money. That has happened to me, and I didn't argue about it, I simply walked off the job.

And yet another way the non-important wins is when things get convoluted, for example when the multi-tasking mindset introduces the notion of juggling several priorities all at once. In theory, if things are done right, this can lead to more optimal outcomes. There is, in fact, an entire field of study in economics known as "constrained optimization." The math is often elegant here. The real world, however, often involves situations that are more raw than refined. Optimal decisions are often delicate and intricate, while decisions made with blunter wisdom are often more sturdy.

LUCY

From Page 14

review his team's evidence and "see if you think our analysis makes sense."

Researchers, keep digging. Why? In understanding how she died, Lucy comes to life. She becomes, in other words, just a little more human.

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5400K

From Page 14

The uncertainty surrounding the future of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) pact would result in allied countries rethinking trust in its association with the U.S. It grants China a stronger upper hand dealing with countries in the region from economic assistance to political harmony. Imagine China securing both political and economic hegemony.

Nonetheless, there's a "rare bright spot for strained Sino-U.S. relations, the U.S. Coast Guard has confirmed that it conducted joint operations in the Pacific with its Chinese counterpart this summer, part of annual patrols to deter illegal fishing.

We ponder these questions on a legitimate basis so we could buckle down to planning the economic future of the islands. Thanks to former Sen. David Cing from Tinian for his timely discussion of this and other issues. The rest who should be concerned are deftly mute!

Helping farmers begin anew

Throughout the course of the year, farmers only have 180 days to make it or break it in whatever they do to earn a living.

In other words, the 180 days are the only time out of 365 days annually when they plant under decent weather. The rest of the time is inundated with monsoon-like weather or a prolonged drought season.

It makes sense, therefore, that government agencies jointly meet to explore reduction in land fees in Kagman and other areas. It also means reinventing services and the dismantling of stifling regulations.

Farmers need help and the request for funds to buy a tractor sounds plausible. Sen. Jude Hofschneider can't be punitive about it, right sir?

My pals and I used to talk about optimization all the time. You can thank school for that. But now we're more inclined to prefer situations that are "good enough" while being less delicate and less prone to failure. You can thank the real world for that. From what I've seen, it's better to be 30-percent less clever than 1- percent too clever.

It's not just the allure of fancy equations that can pull us off the better path. The allure of words can also do that. Give someone enough time to "explain" something, and they can make the important seem unimportant while making the unimportant seem important. When I was in corporate life, waves of pop-psychology management trends were always washing through the offices. As a result, views about what was important, and not important, were always floating in and out.

To a dedicated careerist, the important thing was to hold the fashionable opinion about what was important. One of my friends, an engineer in management ranks, maintained a list of the popular buzzwords, and he'd circulate it every few months so we could feign conformity.

Well, so much for my corporate memories. Saipan doesn't have much corporate bureaucracy, so many readers have been spared the indignities of living in a real-life Dilbert cartoon.

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/ her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



Looking back at being the managers of our own lives, if we want to get a little philosophical, we could consider that we'd be in good shape if we could jibe what's important over the next 10 years with what's important in the next five minutes. To the extent that these things mesh, our immediate actions are in harmony with our bigger goal. To the extent that these things don't mesh, we're at risk of squandering our time.

Anyway, this is one topic that leapt to mind as I sorted through my bookshelf. Some of the management books will get dusted off and put back on the shelf. Some others will be tossed out. The simple wisdom endures. The fashionable ideas are gone; until, that is, they get recycled.

A nutrient to help prevent cancer

he nutrient is selenium: an essential mineral. You may have never heard of it. Not only are most people deficient in selenium, it

can go a long way to help to prevent cancer. And yet, most people do not get adequate amounts of selenium, even in a multi-vitamin. Your body needs selenium to stay healthy.

Selenium becomes more effective when taken with vitamin E. Working synergistically, selenium and vitamin E are powerhouses of nutrition and also help to fight free radicals, which can cause, or contribute to, many diseases. Your body needs these nutrients—vitamin E and selenium—every day.

"Selenium is a powerful mineral. Needed only in very small amounts, it plays a crucial role in your cells' defenses against cancer. It is a central part of the enzymes that knock out free radicals, the unstable molecules which can attack your cells and ultimately lead to cancer. It also plays a role in recycling antioxidants through the body. These antioxidants, such as vitamin E, then lower the risk of cancer by preventing free radicals from damaging cells." (Source: PCRM.org—Physician's Committee for Responsible Medicine)

Selenium and vitamin E are inexpensive and may be found at most large grocery stores and vitamin shops around the island.

However, selenium has another little-known use: it can both prevent and cure muscular dystrophy. I mention this because Labor Day is just around the corner.

You may remember the famous Labor Day telethons, which Jerry Lewis hosted for 45 years. His sponsor was the Muscular Dystrophy Association, and they raised \$1.6 billion for research over the decades. The telethon was a great show.

On stage with Jerry Lewis were his "kids"—children in wheelchairs who could not walk or function normally. It was heartbreaking to see them.

A true story...

There was a young man from an agricultural Amish community in Pennsylvania. He enlisted in the Marine Corps and later went on a number of overseas missions.

When he returned to his home community—some 10 years later—the marine found that many of the children had muscular dystrophy. This saddened and frustrated him, because he was un-

Fortunately, this Marine had met a naturopathic doctor, Joel Wallach, N.D., and called him up. The Marine told Dr. Wallach that his community had a number of dystrophic children, and asked if there was anything the doctor could do.

Dr. Wallach and his team soon visited the Amish community and took blood samples from the children. They also examined the soil where vegetables were grown.

They discovered that the children had no selenium in their bloodstreams; nor was there any selenium in the soil in which their vegetables grew. This meant that these children were chronically deficient in selenium.

Dr. Wallach and his team began to administer selenium to the children. The younger ones got well almost immediately. Those in their teens and 20s were also cured, but it took longer for the selenium to work. In the end, all were cured of muscular dystrophy.

Dr. Wallach exclaimed, "These kids went from wheelchairs to playing basketball!"

Excited by the results (which were meticulously recorded)

By RUSS MASON

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Russ Mason, M.S., wrote for a medical journal, "Alternative & Complementary Therapies," for eight years. He interviewed dozens of doctors who had much to share about unconventional treatment options. These included Tibetan medicine, Chinese medicine.



botanicals, and treating stroke victims with hyperbaric oxygen.

they contacted Jerry Lewis' office and told his secretary that they had found the cure for muscular dystrophy. Dr. Wallach later emailed the woman his research findings; he also sent hard copies by regular mail.

When Jerry Lewis examined the data, he was dumbfounded. At last a cure had been found for muscular dystrophy: a simple selenium deficiency!

Lewis then went to the board of the Muscular Dystrophy Association and happily announced that, according to the data, there was, at long last, a cure for MD.

The board of the Muscular Dystrophy Association promptly fired Jerry Lewis, and canceled his appearance in any future telethons. And, because Lewis had signed a non-disclosure agreement, he was forbidden to discuss anything having to do with muscular dystrophy; and he was prohibited from talking about a cure. Jerry Lewis, who started the telethon decades earlier, was now finished. The MDA gave him a severance package and sent him on a cruise.

The MDA continues its fundraising and research initiatives, even though it's unnecessary. If they were to suddenly stop, many scientists would be out of a job, and the MDA would have egg on its face.

This is, unfortunately, typical of corporate medicine: they prefer that kids remain dystrophic than to get well with selenium. And, unfortunately, modern medical science rarely considers nutritional deficiencies as a cause of illness; they were busy looking for a germ, or a problem with the patients' DNA.

"We're on the verge of a cure," the MDA doctors said. They

To this day, Jerry Lewis has honored his non-disclosure agreement, and refuses to talk about his "retirement" from the telethon.

However, Dr. Joel Wallach had no such agreement with the Muscular Dystrophy Association and you can watch him tell the above story in a variety of YouTube videos.

In other YouTube videos, there are dozens of presentations on how selenium can both prevent and treat cancer. All you need to do is to visit YouTube and type "selenium cancer" into the search box. You will be presented with many video offerings, all which say the same thing: selenium has definite anti-cancer properties, especially when combined with vitamin E.

In the Marianas, most people don't give much thought to trace minerals, but it's a good time to learn some new things, especially if 200mcg (micrograms) of selenium can help keep you cancer-free.

Even easier, many people take a multi-vitamin. The better ones have 200mcg of selenium as part of the formulation. Taking a multi-vitamin is an easy way to get not only selenium, but other essential nutrients your body needs every day. However, before you buy a multi-vitamin, read the label and look for selenium, 200mcg.

A good multi-vitamin may cost a few dollars. But, in the long run, it's far more sensible and cost-effective than risking a lifethreatening disease.

16 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN



▲89° ▼79°

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds around 10 mph.

▲ 89° ▼79°



Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.

▼79°

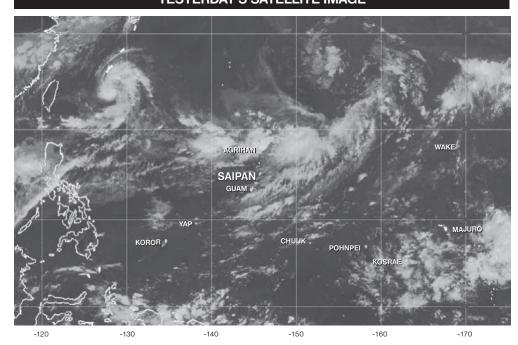
▲ 89°

Partly cloudy.

▲ 89° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE

▲ 89° ▼79°



PICTURE TIME: 5:57 AM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180

High pressure ridging stretches across the Marianas this morning, maintaining light and variable winds with partly cloudy skies. This looks to continue through Friday afternoon. The light winds combined with daytime heating and adequate moisture will allow island thunderstorms to again develop over Guam this afternoon. Winds are expected to increase a bit for Friday, so it looks like today will be the last day for island convection. Models show a weak circulation developing to the north of the CNMI over the next couple of days and slowly drifting a little to the south by Friday. This could bring increasing clouds to the Marianas for the weekend. Right now, it looks like most of the showers associated with the system will remain to the north, however, a few of these showers could drift in to Saipan and Tinian on Saturday. Either way, the shower coverage will remain isolated through the weekend. Seas and surf will remain fairly benign over the next few days.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	Ą	▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Partly cloudy	80 / 88 °F
Palau	Partly cloudy	79 / 87 °F
Yap	Partly cloudy	77 / 88 °F
Chuuk	Mostly cloudy	78 / 87 °F
Pohnpei	Morning clouds	77 / 89 °F
Kosrae	Morning clouds	81 / 87 °F
Majuro	Morning clouds	83 / 87 °F

Majuro	Morning clouds	83 / 87 °F
_		
AROUND TH	E GLOBE	▼ ▲
Auckland	Partly cloudy	51 / 60 °F
Beijing	Broken clouds	66 / 83 °F
Hong Kong	Partly sunny	83 / 90 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	74 / 83 °F
London	Partly cloudy	56 / 67 °F
Los Angeles	Morning clouds	64 / 79 °F
Manila	Partly cloudy	80 / 89 °F
Melbourne	Mostly cloudy	48 / 58 °F
Miami	Mostly sunny	81 / 89 °F
New York	Mostly sunny	67 / 80 °F
Osaka	Mostly sunny	67 / 92 °F
Paris	Partly cloudy	54 / 85 °F
Pusan	Mostly cloudy	74 / 78 °F
Rome	Partly cloudy	66 / 89 °F
Salem	Cloudy	54 / 67 °F
San Francisco	Morning clouds	57 / 71 °F
Seoul	Partly cloudy	66 / 83 °F
Tokyo	Partly cloudy	73 / 85 °F
Washington, DC	Partly sunny	65 / 80 °F



Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
 *11 on any IT&E cellular phone

Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIP	TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY 2:19 AM LOW TIDE 0.7 Feet 7:44 AM HIGH TIDE 1.88 Feet 2:33 PM LOW TIDE 0.09 Feet				
2:19 AM	LOW TIDE	0.7 Feet			
7:44 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.88 Feet			
2:33 PM	LOW TIDE	0.09 Feet			
8:46 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.87 Feet			

SUNRISE / SUNS	ET	
Today	6:05 AM	6:28 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:28 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:27 PM
Monday	6:05 AM	6:26 PM
Tuesday	6:05 AM	6:26 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET						
Today	6:32 AM	7:05 PM				
Saturday	7:21 AM	7:44 PM				
Sunday	8:09 AM	8:23 PM				
Monday	8:57 AM	9:02 PM				
Tuesday	9:44 AM	9:42 PM				

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2016

	DEI	PARTU	RES
SAIPAN-0	BUAM (GI	JM)	
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921 1:30pm 2:05pm 1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM

UA2921 2:35pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

7C3401

OZ6063

DL297 4:20pm 7:00pm Daily

SAIPAN-	SEOUL (IC	CN)	
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily

4:00pm 7:45pm

5:15pm 8:35pm

Daily

4.7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)0Z608 3:10am 6:20am 4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764 1:30am 6:35am 3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6

ı				
	SAIPAN-MA	NILA (I	MNL)	
	OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
	OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
	UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
	UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
	PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4
	UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
	UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
	UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
	UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
	UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
	UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) HX077 2:00am 5:00am 1, 4 1 via ICN OZ626/721 2:20am 11:50am OZ626/721 2:50am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA2921/159 1:30pm 9:55pm 1, 5 via Rota-GUM UA2920/159 2:20pm 9:55pm 3, 6 via GUM

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA2923 2:45am 3:35am Daily 7:15am 8:05am UA2925 Daily UA2921 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA2920 12:10pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6 via Rota UA2927 4:45pm 5:35pm Daily UA2929 8:30pm 9:20pm Daily

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298 10:30am 3:05pm Daily

 SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

 LJ651
 7:30am
 1:10pm
 Daily

 7C3402
 9:30am
 3:00pm
 Daily

 OZ6053
 10:35am
 4:05pm
 4, 7

OZ625 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ625 8:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 7C3404 10:10pm 3:40am+1 Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607 9:05pm 1:55am+1 3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763 4:40pm 12:30am+1 2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN 9:55am 5:35pm 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM OZ702/625 12:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/625 12:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR1571 9:20pm 3:35am+1 3, 7 UA192/2925 9:45pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via ROR-GUM PR110/UA2925 10:05pm 8:05am+1 Daily via GUM UA184/2925 10:25pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/2925 11:30pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625 1:10pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN
OZ722/625 1:10pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076 5:30pm 12:30am+1 3, 7
UA116/2925 9:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIP	AN .	6:30PM 6:30PM	6:45PM 6:45PM	Daily Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
DEPARTURE ARRIVAL 6:30AM 6:45AM	FREQUENCY Mon, Tue, Wed,		TO TINIA	,	SAIPAN	TO ROT	A
7:30AM 7:45AM 8:30AM 8:45AM 9:30AM 9:45AM 10:30AM 10:45AM	Thu, Fri, Sat Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily	7:00AM 8:00AM 9:00AM 10:00AM	7:15AM 8:15AM 9:15AM 10:15AM	FREQUENCY Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily	DEPARTURE 7:45AM 4:00PM	8:15AM 4:30PM	FREQUENCY Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
11:30AM 11:45AM 12:30NN 12:45NN 1:30PM 1:45PM 2:30PM 2:45PM 3:30PM 3:45PM 4:30PM 4:45PM 5:30PM 5:45PM	Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily	11:00AM 12:00NN 1:00PM 2:00PM 3:00PM 4:00PM 5:00PM	11:15AM 12:15NN 1:15PM 2:15PM 3:15PM 4:15PM 5:15PM	Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily	ROTA TO DEPARTURE 8:30AM 4:45PM	O SAIPAN E ARRIVAL 9:00AM 5:15PM	, ,

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Permanized' CW visa

As an affected and a longtime CW worker here in the island, I am confused on the current state of fellow CWs in the island. There are a lot of inconsistencies under the current CW regulations that affect a lot of longtime foreign workers. The CW cap and the 10-days exit if CW renewal is rejected, among others, are very confusing. The 902 talks

gave us a very, very slim hope and now here comes the relief by way of "deferred action" which is on a case-by-case basis that also means a 50/50 chance of approval.

Back in 2011, I wrote a letter addressing this current predicament and I even publicly opposed this through a lawsuit together with fellow CWs (seven of us) to stop the implementation because it will eventually affect CW holders.

CWs are now experiencing hardship, emotional distress, and worse separation of families. Back then I knew hardship, emotional distress, and family separation will occur. I guess, the only solution is for USCIS to extend "permanized CW visa" a family-based visa similar or to H-visas to all long-term foreign workers if they don't like CNMI permanent residency.

Carlito J. Marquez

Lower Base

A local office for MCV

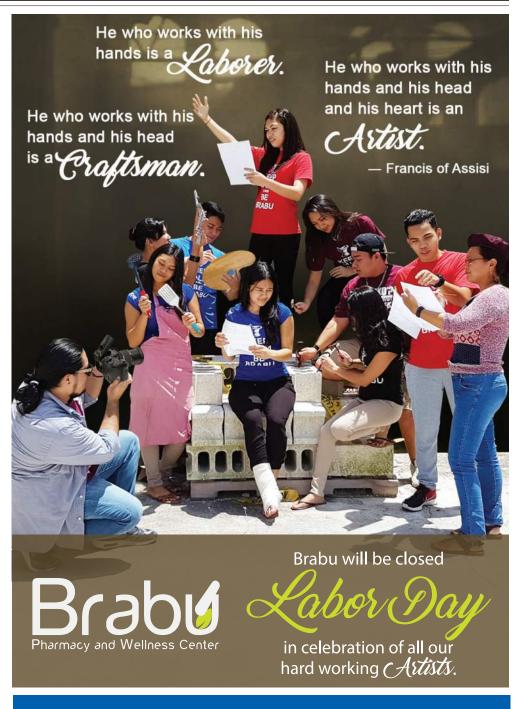
I am struggling with this letter, partly due to the offensive treatment of the people of the Commonwealth by the owners of MCV (Docomo, I am told) and the lack of interest in solving complaints from

subscribers of MCV. Perhaps there lies the problem. With an estimated population of the CNMI at a conservative 40,000, it is perhaps safe to sav that at least 50 percent subscribes to MCV. It is the

only provider of television services to the islands. Why then don't we have an office in the CNMI to answer queries about the services provided to us? We have to call a CNMI number and Guam answers the phone.

See MCV on Page 18





TRIPLE J RESTAURANT GROUP is now accepting applications for the following position:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JOB DUTIES

- Plans, directs, and coordinates the operations of Triple J's restaurant operations in Saipan
- Formulates policies, establishes, and implements departmental policies, goals, and
- Manages daily operations, and plans the use of materials and human resources
- Oversees daily activities directly related to making high-quality food products and providing customer service
- Directs and coordinates the organization's financial and budget activities

REQUIRED SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- Must have management skills and experience to handle 100+ employees and oversee the operation of three or more prestigious restaurants simultaneously
- Must be able to interpret financial statements, perform marketing and advertising
- Must have professional cooking and bartending skills
- Must be skilled in food and beverage costing
- Required Education and Experience
- Bachelor's degree in business, food service, hospitality, or related field
- Minimum of ten (10) years of food service management experience required

LOCATION

Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas

COMPENSATION

This is an overtime exempt position. Salary will commensurate with education and work experience.

Interested applicants are requested to forward their resumes to the HR Director, Triple J Saipan, PO Box 500487, Saipan, MP 96950

Triple J is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer. Women, Minorities, Veterans, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

MCV

From Page 17

I've called two days ago to ask why the program schedule for "Wicked Tuna" is not being played on the time and channel specified in channel 60 (TV Guide to the programs). The call took me to several robots answering the phone until I can finally just punched a key to talk about television. They don't even have a complaint menu on the machine robot that answers the phone. Finally, I got to talk to a real person and the lady wanted to verify our

I gave her) and requested for our password. When I told her that we were not given any password, she wanted the last four digit of our Social Security number. I mentioned that it is my understanding that federal laws prohibit asking for anyone's Social Security numbers. That seems to be the end of my inquiry.

This is so simple and does not require any telephone numbers, passwords or Social Security numbers. Guam controls the programs with their most recent technologies at their disposals. Check the channel, is it playing the right program? End

of story. It doesn't matter whose telephone, password or Social Security number it belongs to.

This is so insulting that Saipan, Tinian and Rota cannot call a local telephone number to register any concern regarding the public utility service that we are entitled to have. I call on the Legislature to amend the law governing public utility and make a requirement for any business operating in the Commonwealth to have a local office to service our people.

Finally, I want to say that I am not blaming the lady who answers the phone in Guam,

or the staff and management of the Saipan office for the lack of sensitivity on all MCV customers (including Docomo's Internet and wireless services). It is my guess that the owners of Docomo simply do not trust its prov-

en, competent Saipan staff to be empowered to run the office locally. If Guam customers can call in and have their inquiry resolved over the telephone, then CNMI's customers should not be treated any differently. No

CNMI customers should be required to physically drive to Docomo's office when a simple phone call can resolve the issues.

Pete P. Reyes

Via email

Battleground for good government

The MV *Luta*'s evolving newsworthy account is no longer an anecdotal phenomenon, but one caused by non-incidental manifestation of corruption cooked from the start. The governing muscle of government drift in silence and no one seems

to be minding the issue, and in their hope linger that Mr. John DelRosario's effort will derail and stop its forward traction within the judicial system. OPA, OAG, the entire legislative elected representatives, the professional lawyers in their respective offices of this government and bureaucrats in appointed offices are all professionals who have contracted the disease called "professional deformity".

deformity". The loser is the taxpayers and treated by these elite as the "day's fly" that can be shooed away and swapped out as inconsequential trash. The CNMI's treasury is an open checkbook for those who raid it in broad daylight and with the stroke of a pen. Defenders of the public purse shield their culpability by pleading their professional deformity ignorantly hailing that "am not a lawyer" and "asserting constitutional immunity" as normal deal of the corrupted government. This is what we get as adulterated services of the revelatory value spoken by elected and appointed servants of this government. And, these professed trusted and credible professionals could hardly be expected to escape their own professional deformation as the rationale turns more and more completely to their social functions. Unmistakably, their positions in this government should be a test of courage with the Judicial Branch in the hope that it would stand as the impartial arbiter to all these conundrums. When Mr. John Del-Rosario's lawsuit prevails, this government should behave with decency and uncompromising respect of the governed. Reality fixes, however, where troublesome and profound ambiguity resides with our elected and appointed elites of an unpretentious virgin government.

Corruption comes in many forms and falsities, some obvious and many in secrecy and rational concoction in ordinary or extraordinary fashion. But, our elected and appointed elite finds ways in which to justify their existence within the somber community of professional savants and public gatekeepers. This is the breeding ground of corrupt endeavors, but it could be also the battleground for good gov-

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ernment. When our elected representatives failed the electorates, our only hope and last resort rests with an impartial arbiter, and Mr. John DelRosario is praying that one exists within our judicial system. We can tame corruptness and corruption in government in a «policing the police» system, or something like the devil investigating hell. If this government finds it appropriate to defend its inner circles of elected and appointed elites, and the muffling OPA and OAG choosing its selected and preferred party, it is time that this government fund the taxpayers cause of actions against corruptible agents of this government regardless of person and positions. Such funds should be dedicated to «public ligation by taxpayers fund» for the purpose of ridding this government of corruption and the OPA or Office of Public Accountability asserts neutrality on perceived corruptible matters by any taxpayer. This fund and its purpose of straightening and challenging corrupt public expenditures by the elected and appointed elite in this government brings this government to the forefront of checks and balances. It is not a last resort, but just alternative action since the OPA and OAG appear to failing the governed as they depend on their professional acumen for the fight of benign and latent white collar crimes being perpetuated by elected and appointed elites of this government.

We rally and pray in support of Mr. John DelRosario>s taxpayer lawsuit. We hope that all elected and appointed elites of this government will stupefy themselves, take holy water, receive the sacraments, and in the end all shall be well, and their souls comes pure by avoiding the snares and pomp of the devil. And, God does not make the devil, it is in the person that the devil resides and is not homeless. A corrupt mind and predispose intention does not find favor in God's sanctuary, but demons delves and finds roots in those that manifest corruption as ordinary course of business of good government.

Francisco R. Agulto Kanat Tabla



All proceed will go towards providing local support for our Veterans, Military Personnel,

Law Enforcement Officers Fire and 1st Responders in dealing with Post Traumatic Stress

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Larissa Larson case

What did Larson say? She was ordered by Inos to release \$400,000 to M/V *Luta*? Was the \$400,000 authorized via a legislative appropriation bill or via a resolution? Seems like Larson's attorney, OAG's Tenorio is fishing for an excuse why we should be easy with Larson.

If I were in Larson's situation of releasing money by order of the governor, without knowing that there has to be an accompanying appropriation bill to legitimize the order, would I be "dispensa i taotao sa ti ha tungo i areglamento sa ti abogado gui?"

What a crock! I would be hanged by my feet from a tree in the public square. Take that, you dimwit! Why didn't you ask to see the appropriation bill authorizing the release? Was that a routine procedure by the governor, just order the release, and you come stumbling through the door—Yes, sir?

Releasing government money without going through proper governmental procedure—Legislative and Executive branches—through an appropriation bill. Was the money included in the budget package approved by both houses, and approved for distribution by the governor? It doesn't matter whether it is a local delegation, or delegation from the Northern Islands, or the governor himself, the act must go through standard procedure-the budget package, or an individual request, the request for appropriation must come from the Lower House, be sent to the Upper House, entertained on the floor, be sent to the governor for his authorization for release of fund. And then, party time. Who was the beneficiary of the \$400,000? The oriental investor, or somebody else not relevant to the ship investment? Am I trying this case in my computer?

I better not. The court exists for that purpose. *Peching*, *peching*. *Maila ya ta nangga i kotte*.

Rudy M. Sablan

Garapan

POEMS

DR. DOOM'S IN THE ROOM—MORE ABOUT LESS By JOSEPH CONNOLLY

It is more than changing that national income tax plan More than his ineptitude answering a simple question More than synaptic gaps his negative neurons span That gives the RNC dyspepsia and chronic indigestion It is more than the billions of dollars he says he's got Or his blatant refusal to divulge his tax returns It is more about what the Donald really is NOT That is a candidate who listens, thinks, and learns It is less what he says with those appalling insults Less about his knee jerk answers and gadfly guffaws But more about his understanding the results Of being oblivious to interpretation of laws Before less, now more are seeing he's not the choice But a pathetic mental midget with a belligerent voice

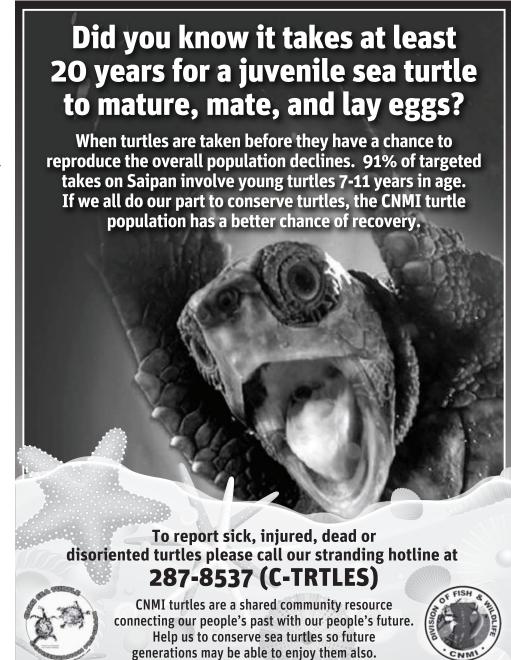
NOT OUT OF CASH BUT FULL OF TRASH By JOSEPH CONNOLLY

One more for the road let the campaign tires cool
All the bozos on the bus broke down and cried
Across America students were going back to school
The day the Trumposphere trailer music died
The driver of the bus was losing his concentration
Many were jumping off Trump's bluster bandwagon
Out of embarrassment no doubt and sheer frustration
The rear guard axle/axis on the bombast bus was draggin
The Super PAC gas stations were pumping in cash
His rallies were filled with angry gun advocate folks
As the Donald continued to tweet, thrash, and totally trash
His untiring gab gadfly full of hot air memes and broken spokes
On the air every night he went flying from town to town
Running off at the mouth his numbers kept spiraling down

SARCASM? JUST A SILLY SPASM By JOSEPH CONNOLLY

Let me repeat, he did, he did, and so did she Its the way he got out, the way he got out ISIS wants to give her MVP they want to MVP You hear me you hear me do I have to shout It is rigged believe me believe me I heard I never meant that I never meant that all Media jumping on my every word every word We'll see in the fall we'll all see in the fall Nobody's listening they just don't get it Many people said, I heard, many others get it Of course I was just being sarcastic sarcastic I called National Enquirer and had them vet it It was sarcasm sarcasm just a silly senior spasm Another example of my word use abuse chasm

Joseph "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired CNMI PSS teacher who taught English on Tinian and Saipan from 1984 to 2014. He currently enjoys studying cosmology, Asian poetry, and life on Tinian.







Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands **Department of Labor**



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MCS holds annual Student Leadership Retreat



Mount Carmel School Student Council president Zeno Deleon Guerrero kicks off the annual Student Leadership Retreat with an

Student Council officers review planning material during the Student Leadership Retreat. From left, STUCO vice president Jaqueline Doctor, STUCO treasurer Eligiah Camacho, and STUCO secretary Brianna Hunter.

While most teenagers slept in last Saturday, Aug. 27, Mount Carmel School's student leaders got up bright and early to participate in the school's Student Leadership Retreat. Held every year, the retreat helps students grow as leaders and gives them the opportunity to work together to plan all school activities for the school year.

The retreat was facilitated by the school's Student Council, led by its president, Zeno Deleon Guerrero. After starting with a prayer and a groupbuilding energizer, Deleon Guerrero laid out his vision for the school year, encouraging everyone to work together.

As he put it, "I wanted us to be a family, and it was important for student leaders to lead by example." He followed his talk by sharing videos encouraging student leaders to pasbuilding activities, student leaders and their teacher advisers got down to work, planning out the entire school

sionately pursue their dreams.

After a few more group-

year. Going through week by week, Student Council officers worked with clubs, classes, and organizations to schedule activities for the year. Whenever conflicts emerged, students were ushered aside to work out alternatives and solutions. By the end of the retreat, student leaders had successfully planned out the

Student Council vice president Jaqueline Doctor was very happy with the results of the retreat. She said, "It was very productive. A lot of the students participated and were very active in their goals." *(PR)*

entire year.



Seventh grade student leaders learn about communication and teamwork in the "Untangle" activity



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sophomore class leaders discuss their goals for the school year.



Sophomore class officer Dayna Macaranas, left, waits her turn as Junior class officer Jeff Melchor, middle, schedules an activity with Student Council treasurer Eligiah Camacho, right.

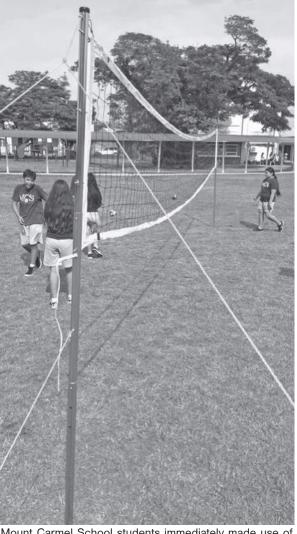


LIBERTY PLAZA DONATION

Frances Yumul recently made a donation on behalf of Liberty Plaza to Mount Carmel School's volleyball program. The donation included a fully portable volleyball net kit.



Mount Carmel School students in action playing volleyball.



Mount Carmel School students immediately made use of



Junior class leaders look on as their makeshift tower is measured as part of a group-building activity.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 **21** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

MINA Through The Years

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance is commemorating over 10 years of conservation this year. Tonight, Sept 2, MINA will be hosting its annual Green Gala event, which is its signature fundraising event. In addition to grants, MINA relies on the generosity of companies, individuals, and volunteers to continue its important work for the community. To learn more, visit www.minapacific.org or call 233-REEF (7333). Photo shows MINA assisting with the Depart-



MINA also was involved in the post-Soudelor cleanup at Tanapag Middle School.



MINA takes part in the International Coastal Clean Up at northern



MINA has partnered with Marianas Tourism Council for outreach to schools.





across the is-





MINA staff participated in the island ecology training with John Furey.



MINA partnered with the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Qquality for its Tinian Summer Eco Camp.





MINA partnered with the Division of Fish and Wildlife at the Liberation Day parade.



MINA partnered with Joeten Group of Companies to encourage the use of reusable bags.

LOCAL **22** FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Bridge Investment is Green Gala title sponsor

Through its contribution, Bridge Investment Group has signed on as the latest sponsor supporting Micronesia Islands

conserving the islands' natural resources. Bridge Investment Group's \$3,000 cash dona-

Nature Alliance's work in tion was made to support MI-NA's fundraising efforts. The Green Gala will be held today, Sept.2, 2016 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

BIG chief executive officer Phillip Mendiola-Long and Stevedoring & Logistics chief

contribution. The leading conservation nonprofit organization in the Commonwealth, MINA has worked to implement various conservation projects, including the Plastic Bag Challenge, the Schools for Environmental Conservation workshops, the Marine Debris Prevention

program, Tasi Watch Program,

Trenton Brian Conner paid a

visit to MINA's Gualo Rai of-

fice to deliver their company's

Bridge Investment Group CEO Phillip Mendiola-Long, center, presents \$3,000 donation to MINA interim director Becky Furey and staff. Joining him is Stevedoring & Logistics chief Trenton Brian Conner, far right. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

the Adopt-A-Bin Project, and Managaha Pride Campaign.

In order to continue its efforts to preserve and protect the CNMI's environment and biodiversity, MINA is seeking the community's participation in the Green Gala event. The organization is supported by project grants and from generous contributions from local businesses and community members.

In addition to lively entertainment, dinner and a variety of beverages, the Green Gala will feature highlights from MINA's projects, a silent auction, and many other activities that promise a memorable evening to celebrate over 10 years of working with island communities for conservation.

For more information on MINA's projects, contact 233-REEF (7333), or email minaoutreach@gmail.com.(PR)

PacIOOS launches new website

The Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System is proud to announce the launch of its new website, http://www.pacioos. org. The goal of this website is to further PacIOOS' mission to empower ocean users, decision-makers, and stakeholders across the Pacific Islands with accurate and reliable coastal and ocean information, data, and services.

The new website provides

user-friendly tools and easy access to PacIOOS' observations of waves, sea surface currents, and water quality. Users can choose from a variety of formats to view and explore data, such as interactive graphs and map viewers. A large set of coastal, oceanic, and atmospheric forecasts are also available for different parts of the U.S. Pacific Islands region, including forecasts of potential wave inundation, harbor surge, water temperature, and wind speed.

Melissa Iwamoto, PacIOOS Director, states, "We are delighted to introduce a modern web presence that is engaging, informative, and easy-to-use. As an ocean data provider, PacIOOS collects, manages, and serves a wealth of information—the website is a crucial interface to connect ocean information with our users."

PacIOOS' website was designed with robust stakeholder input to serve a wide variety of needs. For example, the latest real-time observations and model forecasts help ocean users such as fishermen, commercial operators, surfers, and swimmers to make informed decisions. Data products also support agency officials and emergency responders as they develop advisories and warnings. For scientists and other technical users, the website

offers access to data servers and metadata, and a data search function. Educators and community members will find a comprehensive set of educational resources, including classroom materials, regional information, and outreach brochures.

In addition, PacIOOS features special projects in order to highlight partner efforts and to provide research findings and related data. Users can delve into tracks from tagged tiger sharks, learn more about

the implications of sea level rise, monitor ocean acidification, and more.

PacIOOS is excited about the possibilities presented by the new website to increase data accessibility and to enhance the overall user-experience. We invite vou to explore the new website—from mobile devices or from desktop—to discover the latest data and to find out more about the diverse and dynamic Pacific Islands region! *(PR)*



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962 E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified bidders to submit their bids for the FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AND COMMUTER TERMINALS EIGHT (8) A/C UNIT REPLACEMENT, PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-001-16.

Sealed bids will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at 2:00 PM, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2016, at which time and place the sealed bids will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of replacement of eight (8) air-conditioning units located at the Saipan International and Saipan Commuter Terminals. Procurement includes removal and disposal of existing units scheduled for replacement.

The Project is being funded by Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for installation of eight units shall be **TWO HUNDRED TEN (210) CALENDAR DAYS.** Liquidated damages shall be imposed in the amount of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (5500.00)** per day if the commissioning of the A/C units is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section 70-26 of the specifications. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Non-Collusive Affidavit" and "Designation of Subcontractors" as contained in the bid documents, with the

Bids and contract documents including specifications may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of FIFTY DOLLARS (\$50.00) for each set of documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority

There is no pre-bid conference for this project. Bidders will be responsible for scheduling a site inspection with CPA.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least four (4) days prior to the bid opening.

Each bid shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are encouraged to use the CD bid schedule form. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid documents and specifications

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid documents are available for inspection at the

Each bid shall be accompanied by either bid bond from a CPA approved listed surety company, a certified check or a cashier's check in the amount not less than five percent (5%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO Acting Executive Director

Date: August 31, 2016



Commonwealth **Utilities Corporation**





INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-021

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF PRESTRESSED CONCRETE POWER POLES

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Supply and Delivery of Prestressed Concrete Power Poles for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and CUC. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one IFB package set

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-16-021, Supply & Delivery of Prestressed Concrete Power Poles" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on September 21, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms, Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract(s) is contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission and the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Board of Director's approval. The contract(s) will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on September 6, 2016 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address-manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Joseph Crisostomo, CUC Power Division, Purchasing Technician via email address- joe.crisostomo@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant via email address - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

Acting Executive Director Purchasing Officer

LOCAL SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 **23**

MVA joins Seasons of Life Festival in Khabarovsk



A festival-goer attaches his paper airlines to a map of Saipan during the Seasons of Life festival on Aug. 20-21, 2016, in Khabarovsk, Russia.

The Marianas Visitors Authority, in cooperation with airline partner Asiana Airlines, participated in the Seasons of Life festival in Khabarovsk, Russia on Aug. 20-21, 2016.

Over 10,000 visitors attended the festival alongside the beautiful scenery of the Amur River, where the MVA and Asiana promoted the Northern Marianas as a tropical getaway directly accessible from the Khabarovsk region via Seoul, Korea.

"Although the Russian economy has negatively affected arrivals to the Northern Marianas from Russia, we still have repeat visitors who have fallen in love with the islands and are still coming," said MVA managing director

Christopher A. Concepcion. "At the same time, the connection between Khabarovsk and Seoul on Asiana Airlines

has improved and is more convenient. It's important to maintain our presence in the market for when outbound



The Marianas Visitors Authority and Asiana Airlines promoted the Northern Mariana Islands at the Seasons of Life festival on Aug. 20-21, 2016, in Khabarovsk, Russia.



Marianas Visitors Authority Regional Manager Svetlana Vasilevskaya, center, is joined by representatives of Asiana Airlines and a model at the Seasons of Life festival on Aug. 20-21, 2016, in Khabarovsk,



travel picks up again."

The MVA distributed information and printed materials, answered questions at their booth, and had hands-on activities. Children made paper kites and airplanes branded with the logos of the MVA and Asiana. In addition, festivalgoers made origami airplanes which they were encouraged to attach to a map of Saipan with fond wishes.

On average, visitors to the NMI from the Russian market stay longer and spend more compared to visitors from other markets. (PR)

Kite-making and other handson activities were featured at the Marianas Visitors Authority booth during the Seasons of Life festival on Aug. 20-21, 2016, in Khabarovsk, Russia.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055 Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962 E-mail Address: cpa. admin@pticom.com Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY INSURANCE BROKERAGE SERVICES PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-018-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) invites interested insurance brokers, licensed to conduct business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to submit proposals for providing Insurance Brokerage Services singularly or in partnership with others.

The Proposal Package and specifications is available for pick-up beginning August 12, 2016 at the Office of the Executive Director. 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Insurance Brokerage Services, Project No. CPA-RFP-018-16." One (1) original and three (3) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. LOCAL TIME, September 2nd, 2016, to the Office of the Executive Director at the aforementioned location

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so, would be in CPA's best interest. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO Acting Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055 Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962 E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY **MULTI YEAR FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT SERVICES**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CPA-RFP-019-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed cost proposal for auditing services for a period of three (3) fiscal years. The location and scope of work package is available beginning August 12, 2016 at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd

Interested proposers must submit one original and three copies of the sealed proposal. Only proposals from U.S. nationally recognized firms will be accepted.

The sealed proposals must be submitted before 4:30 p.m. LOCAL TIME, September 02, 2016, at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO Acting Executive Director



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055 Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962 E-mail Address: cpa. admin@pticom.com Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AIRCRAFT RESCUE FIREFIGHTING (ARFF) BUILDING RENOVATIONS

Project No. CPA-TA-003-16 The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Architectural and Engineering (APE) Design Services for renovations to the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fightling (ARFF) Building at the Tinian International Airport, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

The project is being funded by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This project is in accordance Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section Architect-Enginer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for qualification statements must be submitted in writing and mailed to Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio, Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 98950-1055, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, September 9, 2016.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria

- A/E design experience in similar scoped projects in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the
- A/E Design experience related to projects institute in the constitute of A/E work experience and services performed for A/P projects, and the Consultant's professional integrity and competence (15 points); and resources performed for A/P projects, and the Consultant's professional integrity and competence (15 points); and Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal (10 points).

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than 4:30 p.m. (CHST), FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2016, Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualificions and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all travel costs and taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

For the Commonwealth Ports Authority:

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO Acting Executive Director

Date: August 10, 2016

BSI launches 'Party Like a VIP in Paradise' charter package

Best Sunshine International, Ltd., a subsidiary of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC, has launched leadingedge "Party like a VIP in Paradise" packages that include charter on demand flights/ transportation to and from Saipan and Guam with the latest state-of-the-art transportation for guests who purchase the company's gaming and non-gaming packages geared toward promoting Saipan as a prime tourist destination.

Brad Wilson, marketing director at Best Sunshine International, said "The company is proud to introduce a twicedaily charter on demand flight to and from Saipan and Guam to allow flexibility and accommodate wider clientage and meet the diverse demands of guests. We currently have limited lodging on Saipan so there is a need for day trip packages for our guests. Our packages provide both Guam and Saipan residents a choice of exceptional packages that include option air transportation to enjoy at either location."

The company operates two 30-seater SAAB 340 planes, known to be one of the most comfortable and reliable charter aircrafts in the industry. For people planning to travel between Saipan and Guam for a relaxing beach vacation, productive business trip, or avail of the family and kid-friendly travel package, BSI offers the ultimate travel experience for business, leisure, and family.

The packages include optional charter service at great values like employee incentives for BSI staff, \$190 for corporate and government employees, \$199 for nongaming clients., and \$299 for gaming clients.

The exclusive \$199 package includes discounted rates at a selection of hotels, Guam to Saipan transportation provided by request, complimentary shuttle service, and

discounts at select restaurants and participating retail stores and amenities such as spas and adventure trail drives.

Packages are now available for guests twice a day between Saipan and Guam; travelers interested in booking may do so through the company's call center by calling (671) 479-8888.

The introduction of the luxurious BSI package /charter service is sure to take the edge of the stresses of traveling, inconvenience of waiting in long lines, and booking hassles; guaranteed to make the client step off the plane relaxed and ready to "Party like a VIP in Paradise." (PR)



Passengers get ready to embark the plush aircraft bound for



Newly introduced to offer air transportation options to and from Guam and Saipan, the first passengers try out Best Sunshine International. Ltd.'s charter



A luxurious SAAB 340 plane promises the most comfortable charter to and from Saipan and Guam.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT Car rental building roof replacement project

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms to perform construction management (CM) services for the replacement of the root and miscellaneous improvements to the car rental building at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan international Airport, Project No. CPA-SA-001-13, Saipan, Chempowealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is beine funded by the Commonwealth of the State Sta

The project is being funded by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

available at or 30 miles of the December Director, 2 motor of the arms at reminal. The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for qualification statements must be submitted in writing and mailed to Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio, Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, P.O. 8ox 501055, Saipan, MP 96950-1055, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, September 2, 2016.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria

- Overall CM experi
- 30 points;
 CM experience related to airport projects; 30 points;
 Level of proficiency in performing CM services promptly; and level of experience with the local and federal regulations and requirements; 15 points;
 The general reputation of the firm in terms of quality of CM work experience, firm's ability to perform the services and the firm's professional integrity and competence 15 points; and Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable 10 points.
- Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact

disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than 430 p.m. (KST). FIDAY. SETEMBER 3.0 DBC. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified construction management firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon. All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all travel costs and taxes that will be charged to the consultant

awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest. For the Commonwealth Ports Authority

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO Acting Executive Director

Date: August 10, 2016



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone) for Billion Ventures (CNMI) Limited

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Billion Ventures (CNMI) Limited is requesting to rezone from "Rural" to "Tourist Resort" zoning district the following lots in Marpi:

Lots# 007 A 02, 007 A 03, 007 A 04, 007 A 05, 007 A 06, 007 A 07, 002 A 02 & 022 A 03 (North of Kensington Hotel, East of Pau Pau Beach Park, and West of Chalan Pale Arnold Road)

Lots # 010 A 02, 010 A 17, & 032 A 01 (North of Matanza Drive and East of

The applicant wishes to construct and operate a hotel & resort facility. A public hearing will be held on:

September 15, 2016

GTC Elementary School, San Roque Place :

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm. September 14, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan,

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seg.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone) for Joyful Team (CNMI) LLC & Tong Feng Int'l, LLC

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Joyful Team (CNMI) LLC & Tong Feng Int'l., LLC is requesting to rezone Lots 141 E 02 & 141 E 05 in Tanapag from "Village Residential" to "Tourist Resort" zoning district to construct a hotel & resort facility. These lots are located beachside along Santa Remedios Road, north of former Basula Producto, and northwest of the Tanapag cemetary.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: September 15, 2016

Time: 5:00 pm

Place: GTC Elementary School, San Roque

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm. September 14, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail. to Therese Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Sainan

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 **25** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Australia, EU collaborate with Habitat for Humanity to give 40 families new homes

Forty families, whose homes were completely destroyed during TC Winston, will benefit from a partnership between Australia and the European Union via a project implemented by the Habitat For Humanity Fiji (HFH Fiji) and the Australia-Pacific Technical College (APTC).

The project called "Delivery of Vocational Training in Fiji" is developing a cadre of skilled and experienced carpenters/ builders with Australian certification qualification. Within this project, course facilitators have designed an innovative training course that helps address some of the shelter needs in TC Winston- affected areas.

Apart from the provision of 40 new core shelters, this partnership aims to develop the construction skills of 33 displaced workers from the Penang Sugar mill due to the impact of TC Winston, including family members of local sugarcane farmers.

These workers are undertaking a Certificate II in Construction course designed to offer them an opportunity to gain skills and qualification in the construction industry while assisting with the construction of cyclone resilient core shelters in communities within the sugar belt areas of Viti Levu.

HFH Fiji has also been engaged in the training course, providing technical expertise to APTC and co-facilitating the construction effort throughout the course.

A handover ceremony of the first of the 40 new cycloneresilient core homes was held in Narewa Village in Rakiraki yesterday.









A handover ceremony of the first of the 40 new cyclone-resilient core homes was held in Narewa Village in Rakiraki. It's a partnership between Australia and the European Union via a project implemented by the Habitat For Humanity Fiji and the Australia-Pacific Technical College.

Speaking at the ceremony, Head of Cooperation of the EU Delegation for the Pacific, Christoph Wagner, said "The EU appreciates this partnership with Australia through its APTC program and HFH Fiji. We value this effort because it is about rebuilding structures over the short term, but more importantly, it is about rebuilding lives over the long term."

The training for the Certificate II Construction program is delivered by APTC through the EU-funded Training Support to the Sugar Industry project.

APTC is an innovative development project funded by the Australian Government, which delivers Australian skills and qualifications for a wide range of vocational careers for skilled Pacific workers.

The Counsellor, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Joanne Choe said that the Australian Government is proud to be able to support APTC in the delivery of training for workers who are engaged in the construction of the new houses.

"The new homes should bring hope to the families who lost everything during TC Winston, and encourage them to continue to show resilience in rebuilding their lives," she added.

APTC Chief Executive Officer Denise O'Brien announced the next phase of this program, will build on the partnerships developed in this phase of the project and delivery community based workshops to up to 200 people.

"These workshops will develop the skills of communities to "build back safer" to mitigate against the level of destruction experienced in the wake of Tropical Cyclone Winston, earlier this year," said Ms O'Brien.

HFH Fiji has been working closely with APTC in identifying construction sites in the

most affected parts of the sugar belt areas. The 21sqm structure is a core shelter designed to withstand category 4 wind speeds and built in accordance with the National Building

"We are very pleased to be part of this project that not only builds homes for 40 families in need of cyclone-resilient shelter, but also focuses on construction training that plays a pivotal role in assisting communities with the rehabilitation work. Our focus has been on building back safer and we sincerely thank all donors involved in reaching out to fami-

lies in need of shelter and training," said HFH Fiji National Director Masi Latianara.

The construction led by HFH Fiji encourages homeowners and their volunteer labourers to assist towards construction that promotes Build Back Safer techniques.

Upon completion of the 22-week program combined with a further six-month work placement, participants will have the opportunity to apply for entry into the APTC Certificate III in Carpentry program.

The construction of the 40 houses is expected to be completed by the end of this year. (PR)



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY **CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID ITB16-DPW/ED-168

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

"LEASE OF A CLASS "H" VEHICLE (4X2 PICK-UP TRUCK) FOR 24 MONTHS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, **ENERGY DIVISION'**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPEREFCTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY

/S/ JAMES A. ADA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID

ITB16-DPW/ED-169

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

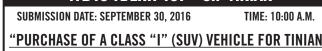
<u>"Lease of a class "d" vehicle (4 door sedan)</u> FOR 24 MONTHS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, **ENERGY DIVISION**"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPEREFCTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY

/S/ JAMES A. ADA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY **CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID ITB16-TDLNR-167 - CIF TINIAN

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS & NATURAL RESOURCES"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT

/S/ JOEY P. SAN NICOLAS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN

/S/ GUILLERMO C. BORJARESIDENT DEPARTMENT HEAD, TDI



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY **CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID ITB16-DLNR/DFW-166 (A) (B)

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

TIME: 9:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF LARGE FORMAT PRINTER (PLOTTER) AND A LARGE <u>FORMAT SCANNER FOR DLNR - DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE</u>

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE. ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT

/S/ RICHARD B. SEMAN

/S/ HERMAN S SARI AN



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY **CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID ITB16-DPS/RBS-162 (A-C)

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"(A) — PURCHASE OF TWO (2) 4X4 (4 DOORS) PICK-UP TRUCK,

(B) — PURCHASE OF ONE (1) SUV 4X4, 8 CYLINDER AND (C) — PURCHASE

OF ONE (1) SUV ACCUMENTATION OF DEPARTMENT OF DIRECT ONE (1) SUV ACCUMENTATION OF THE PROPERTY PUBLIC SAFETY - RECRETIONAL BOATING SAFETY

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

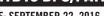
/S/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY **CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID ITB16-DPS/PATROL-163



SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) CLASS "I" VEHICLES (5 DOOR UTILITY VEHICLE / ALL WHEEL DRIVE) FOR THE <u>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – PATROL SECTION"</u>

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE

/S/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN

26 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 SAIPAN TRIBUNE



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM and PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OFFICE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS

Provision of Architect and Engineering Services for the

702 Capital Improvement Program and the Public Assistance Office **RFQ16-GOV-164**

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and the Public Assistance Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth"), are soliciting sealed proposals from Architects and Engineers to provide Project Management Services for designated federally funded projects through: 1) Capital Improvement Program, funded by the Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs and 2) Public Assistance Office, funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Firms may submit proposals for either the Capital Improvement Program only or Public Assistance Office only or for both.

Procurement procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 (Local Preference Act) as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor, and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Selected Architects and Engineers (Project Managers) will be retained as independent contractors under general provision of the Contracting Officer or his/her designee. Project Managers will act as agents of the expenditure authority on assigned Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects and/or the Public Assistance Office projects to ensure that identified objectives are achieved within cost, time and legal requirements while maintaining effective stakeholder communications. Selected Project Managers will be retained of a one year contract with an option to renew for an additiona year at the discretion of the Commonwealth. Project Managers include Architects, Civil, Mechanical, and Electrical Engineers.

Compensation for Project Management services will be determined based on the number of assigned projects including payments for approved staff and expenses. The Commonwealth will negotiate with the selected Project Managers to determine the scope of work and responsibilities. Individuals or firms selected as Project Managers would be precluded from providing any other services associated with the assigned project(s).

To qualify, firms must have a valid CNMI Business License, be currently licensed to practice engineering in the CNMI, and must hold a Certificate

Statements of qualifications must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330, or the latest version of Standard Forms. Only professionally licensed firms with a valid CNMI business license will be considered. Statement of Qualifications will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

Qualification of Firm and/or Personnel

Experience in Project Management

20% 0%

Fee Estimate on a Per Hourly Rate

Fee estimates will assist the CIP Office and the Public Assistance Office with budgeting purposes only. Fee estimates will not be a part of the

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three (3) ranked firms or with all the firms. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The selected firm will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Qualifications statements must be sealed and marked "RFQ16-GOV-164", Project Management Services for the 702 CIP Projects and/or Qualifications statements must be sealed and marked "RFQ16-GOV-164", Project Management Services for the 702 CIP Projects and/or Project Management Services for the Public Assistance Office. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the qualifications statement must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP, no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on Monday, September 26, 2016. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST), on Monday, September 26, 2016, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pitcom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed qualifications statement must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than Monday, September 26, 2016, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on Wednesday, October 5, 2016. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal. A pre-proposal meeting will be held at Governor's Conference Room, located at the Juan A. Sablan building in Capitol Hill, at 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on Tuesday, September 13, 2016.

Questions regarding this RFQ16-GOV-164 may be submitted in writing to Ms. Sheila Babauta at sheilababauta.cip@gmail.com or faxed to 664-2408 later than Monday, September 19, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. (ChST).

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI govern

Ralph DLG. Torres Governor, CNMI

Herman S. Sablan Director, Procurement & Supply



Call for Nominations

2016 GOVERNOR'S

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is accepting nominations for the 2016 Governor's Humanities Awards.

This event, held annually in October as a part of CNMI Humanities Month, recognizes outstanding contributions to the humanities by individuals and organizations in the community.

Nominees should have a notable humanities achievement in the past year, as demonstrated in any of the following four categories:

- Research and Publication in the Humanities;
- Preservation of Traditional Cultural Practices;
- Preservation of CNMI History; and
- Outstanding Humanities Teacher (in both classroom and non-classroom settings).

A fifth category, Lifetime Achievement, recognizes significant contributions to the humanities over multiple decades. This award may be given posthumously.

Nomination forms and instructions are available at the Council's office in the Springs Plaza Building, Gualo Rai, or on the council website at www.northernmarianashumanities.org.

Nominations may be made by any member of the general public and are due no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, 14 October 2016.

Awards will be presented during the Governor's Humanities Awards which will be held in conjunction with the Northern Marianas Humanities Council's 25th anniversary dinner/fundraiser at the Pacific Islands Club on Friday evening, 28 October 2016.

For more information, contact council staff at 235-4785.

Business

G20 govts endorse trade but tighten controls

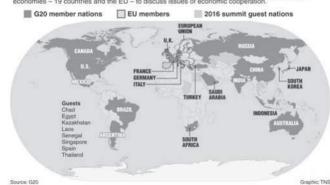
BEIJING (AP)—Leaders of the United States, China and other Group of 20 major economies who meet this weekend say more trade would shore up sluggish global growth but are tightening their own controls on imports.

China hopes its status as G20 host will give it more sway in managing the global economy and has made trade a theme of the meeting in Hangzhou, a scenic lakeside city southwest of Shanghai. Chinese officials say Beijing will propose a plan to promote commerce through cooperation in finance, tax and energy.

Governments also have said they want to discuss climate change, efforts to reduce surplus production capacity in steel and other industries and limits on use of tax havens, though no detailed agreements are expected.

G20 Summit

China will host the 2016 summit of the G20 nations Sept. 4-5. The G20 is a gathering of 20 large economies – 19 countries and the EU – to discuss issues of economic cooperation.



U.S. President Barack Obama, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and other leaders will speak out against protectionism, their governments say. But at the same time, G20 governments are ratcheting up restraints on imports of steel and other goods, prompting concern support for global trade might be eroding.

The summit is the first glob-

al event for British Prime Minister Theresa May after her country's June vote to leave the European Union, a move seen by some political analysts as the start of a possible wave of nations pulling back from economic integration. In the United States, France and elsewhere, politicians are calling for protection for local industry.

No-tipping trend now at more restaurants, with mixed results

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)— When the bill comes after a meal, there's no crunching numbers for the tip—just pay

A small but growing number of restaurants are doing away with the tipping model that's long been the norm in the United States. It's an effort to even disparate pay among restaurant staff and offer them more predictability, as well as a means to cope with rising minimum wages and other industry changes. While restaurants that have eliminated the entrenched practice have seen mixed results—and some ended up abandoning the experiment—a number of restaurants are still trying it.

"Primarily we wanted to take the reins of compensating our employees," said Andy Fortang of Le Pigeon in Portland, Oregon, which eliminated tipping in June.

Le Pigeon raised its prices an average of 20 percent and now compensates workers with a mix of base pay and a percentage of the night's food and beverage sales. Cooks, dishwashers and other "back of the house" employees got a slight pay increase, and waitstaff, bartenders and other "front of the house" staff took a small cut, but everyone shares in the success of a busy night.

"The staff in our restaurants are well-trained, intelligent individuals and they are passionate," Fortang said. "It seems fair they be paid an award for that, instead of just leaving that to someone who

may or may not leave a tip."

Some restaurant owners see tipping as a flawed system. Aaron Adams, who owns the no-tips Farm Spirit in Portland, says it creates a "weird dynamic" between the customer and server. His hope is to keep raising pay so his staff can support their families and buy homes.

Tipping also creates a pay gulf between restaurant staff. Researchers at Cornell University and Ohio State University found that in large metro areas, the median weekly wages of front-of-house employees exceeded those of back-of-house employees by 29 to 80 percent. At fine dining establishments, where the gap is largest, that means a median of \$792 versus \$441.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Samsung delays phone shipment after battery explosion claims

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Samsung says shipments of its Galaxy Note 7 smartphones have been delayed for quality control testing. A company official said Thursday that the delay was caused by additional tests for quality evaluation. Spokeswoman Sophia Kim said media reports that Samsung halted shipments of the flagship phone are not true. It is unusual for Samsung to confirm a delay in sales of a device. The move comes after reports in South Korea that some consumers claimed batteries in the jumbo smartphone exploded during charging. Yonhap News said five to six explosions were reported. Samsung launched the Galaxy Note 7 on Aug. 19 in some markets including South Korea and the U.S. The phone features an iris scanner that lets users unlock the phone by detecting patterns in the eyes.

Tough economic outlook in Brazil after president removed

SAO PAULO (AP)—Two dramas that grabbed global attention—the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro and the removal of Brazil's president—have now concluded. But Brazil is far from answering the biggest challenge facing the country: How can Latin America's largest economy climb out of a deep

recession? Brazil's economy shrank 3.8 percent last year and the International Monetary Fund is forecasting it will shrink another 3.3 percent this year. Brazil's unemployment rate hit 11.6 percent in July, up from 8.6 percent a year ago. And the budget deficit is on pace to reach almost \$48 billion by the end of this year. Much of the grim news snowballed over the last year while Congress was consumed by the fight over President Dilma Rousseff's future. On Wednesday, the Senate answered that, voting 61-20 in favor of removing Rousseff from office for breaking fiscal laws in her management of the federal budget. For some, that is cause for hope that things can turn around.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 **27**

Nation

Trump retreats from vow to deport all living in US illegally

PHOENIX (AP)—Donald Trump is retreating from his vow to deport the nation's entire population of people living in the country illegally, even as he sticks with an aggressive tone on illegal immigration and remains committed to building a physical wall along the U.S. border with Mexico.

The Republican nominee for president promised Wednesday to remove millions of people living in the country illegally if elected president, warning that failure to do so would jeopardize the "well-being of the American people."

"Anyone who has entered the United States illegally is subject to deportation," Trump said in a highly anticipated speech, which took place mere hours after his surprise meeting with Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto in his first trip overstayed their visas and othabroad as the GOP nominee.

But the billionaire New Yorker also said the effort of a proposed immigration task force in a Trump administration would focus on removing criminals, people who have

er immediate security threats.

Left unanswered by Trump: What would happen to those who have not committed crimes beyond their immigration offenses?

Aimed at ending weeks

of confusion over just where he stands on immigration, Trump's fiery speech was filled with applause lines for his loyal supporters.

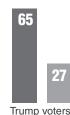
Any person living in the country illegally who is arrested "for any crime whatso-

Trump and his immigration policy

Over the course of the presidential campaign do you think Donald Trump has been consistent or inconsistent when it comes to his immigration

Consistent Inconsistent





Source: YouGov Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

ever," he said, will immediately be placed into deportation proceedings. "There will be no amnesty," he added, saying immigrants in the country without permission who wish to seek legal status or citizenship must return to their home countries in order to do so.

But there was no direct mention of a core promise of his primary campaign—to create a 'deportation force' that would remove all of the estimated 11 million immigrants living in the country illegally.

Hawaii hit by strong rain, surf as tropical storm brushes by

HILO, Hawaii (AP)— Heavy rains hit parts of Hawaii and strong waves pummeled shorelines as a downgraded yet still-powerful Pacific storm passed near the island state.

Though Tropical Storm Madeline was no longer a hurricane, the weather's uncertainty couldn't let Hawaii's Big Island relax.

There were periods of intense rainfall Wednesday as the National Weather Service downgraded Madeline, with winds falling below hurricane strength of 74 mph.

Wind speed diminished slowly throughout the day and by 8 p.m. (11 p.m. PDT), they were swirling at 60 mph. Forecasters said continued weakening was expected.

Madeline's center was 175 miles south of Hilo and moving southwest and away from the state at 15 mph—not predicted to make landfall on any Hawaiian island. Still, the Big prepared."

Island and Maui County were under tropical storm warnings.

Waves crashed into a seawall that surrounds Liliuokalani Gardens Park at Hilo Bay. Water accumulated on the grass of the gardens, leaving stairs of a pavilion partially submerged.

"That heavy rainfall is interspersed with sunny patches," said Kanani Aton, spokeswoman for Hawaii County Civil Defense.

Officials said residents should continue to be prepared for more rain, strong winds and high surf overnight. The rainfall may lead to dangerous flash floods and mudslides, the weather service warned.

"It doesn't matter if it's a strong tropical storm or a category 1 hurricane," said Eric Lau, a meteorologist with the weather service. "If you have 70 mph winds verses 75 mph winds, it's still a strong storm, so residents still need to be

Phoenix, Arizona MAKE **AMERICA** GREAT AGAIN!

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump hugs a woman, whose child was killed by a person living in the country without legal permission, after delivering an immigration policy speech during a campaign rally at the Phoenix Convention Center, Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2016, in Phoenix

FSU player eats lunch with autistic student sitting alone

TALLAHASSEE, (AP)—Thanks to a college football player's small gesture of kindness, it could be a long time before a mother will have to worry again about her autistic son eating lunch alone.

Tears streamed down the face of Leah Paske when she saw the photo of Florida State University wide receiver Travis Rudolph sharing a cafeteria table with her sixth-grader. Then she shared her gratitude on Facebook, and the story

By Wednesday, Bo Paske had no shortage of lunch companions.

"Everyone was super welcoming him. He was at a table full of girls, which I thought was funny," Leah Paske said. "The feedback has been good."

Rudolph was among several FSU players visiting Montford Middle School in Tallahassee on Tuesday when he saw Bo sitting alone in the cafeteria. He grabbed a slice of pizza and asked if he could join him.

The child said, "Sure, why not." Rudolph recalled after practice that day.

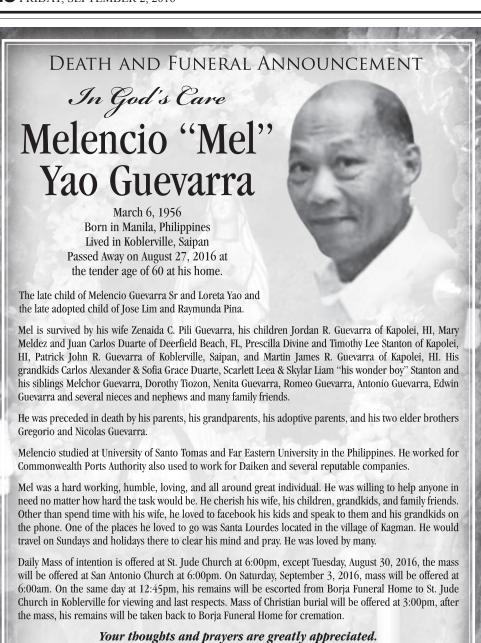
"We just had a great conversation. He started off, telling me his name was Bo, telling me how much he loves Florida State. We went from there," said the West Palm Beach, Florida, native, now beginning his junior season.

"It was real easy ... you'd never think anything was wrong with him. He had a nice smile on his face. Just a really warm person."

Bo's mother had shared her anxieties in the Facebook post. Middle school can be tough. Would other kids be welcoming, or mean?



28 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 SAIPAN TRIBUNE



Wife, Children and Family

World

10K Syrian refugees find new home in US

EL CAJON, Calif. (AP)—On Sunday, Nadim Fawzi Jouriyeh participated in a ceremony in Amman, Jordan, to mark the United States hitting its target of taking in 10,000 Syrian refugees in a year-old resettlement program. On Wednesday, the 47-year-old former construction worker and his family were walking grocery aisles, stocking up on roasted chicken, milk and lemons for their new home outside San Diego.

It didn't take long for Jouriyeh, his 42-year-old wife and four children, ages 8 to 14, to feel welcome.

"America is a beautiful country," he said through an Arabic translator at the office of the International Rescue Committee in El Cajon, a San Diego suburb that has been a magnet for Iraqis and, more recently, Syrians who are fleeing war. "The way they treat people and the people of America are very nice ... When you go down the streets, everyone smiles at you. Even if they don't know you, they just smile at you."

San Diego, the nation's eighth-largest city, has re-

ceived 626 Syrian refugees since Oct. 1, more than any other in the United States. Many smaller cities have accepted outsized number of Syrians, including Erie, Pennsylvania (205), Toledo, Ohio (109), and Boise, Idaho (108).

California and Michigan are neck-and-neck among states for receiving the most Syrian refugees, followed by Arizona, Texas and Illinois. Cities with large numbers include Chicago (469), Glendale, Arizona (384), Troy, Michigan (325) and Dallas (293).

Refugees are typically assigned to cities where they have family and friends or, failing that, where there is an established community of immigrants who share their culture, said David Murphy, executive director in San Diego for the International Rescue Committee, one of nine organizations that helps refugee settle in the United States.

In El Cajon, population 100,000, some store signs on Main Street are in Arabic. Mer-

chants, bank tellers and school teachers speak the language.

Three decades ago, an Iraqi Chaldean immigrant settled in El Cajon and the impact "snowballed" into a large Arabic-speaking community, Murphy said. Iraqis have been coming for years but Syrians are relatively new.

"It's really kind of tough to know how they're going to do. They haven't been here long enough to start businesses or anything like that," Murphy said.

Jouriyeh, who left school after ninth grade in his native Homs to work, fled his warravaged city for Jordan in 2014. Daily bombings frightened the children as the Syrian government retook the city. Jouriyeh had to stay indoors for three days straight because it was too dangerous to go to work.

A drive to the Jordanian border that would normally take two hours required three days as the family tried to avoid roadblocks, arrest and crossfire. Jouriyeh said about 80 people were killed in his convoy.

Duterte ready to defend PH drug killings with Obama

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said Wednesday he was ready to defend his bloody crackdown on illegal drugs, which has sparked U.S. and international concerns, when he meets with President Barack Obama on the sidelines of an Asian summit next week.

Duterte said he would demand that he be allowed to first explain the context of his crackdown before engaging Obama in a discussion of the widespread deaths. The two will meet for the first time on the sidelines of the annual summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and Western leaders in Laos.

Nearly 1,800 suspected drug dealers and users have been killed since July 1, and U.S. Deputy National Security Adviser Ben Rhodes said in Washington on Monday that Obama plans to raise U.S. concerns over the killings with Duterte.

"They must understand the problem first before we talk about human rights," Duterte told a news conference. "I would insist, 'Listen to me. This is what the problem is.' Then we can talk. No problem."

Speaking at Manila's international airport, Duterte warned more than 120 Fili-

pino workers who returned after they were laid off in Saudi Arabia to stay away from illegal drugs.

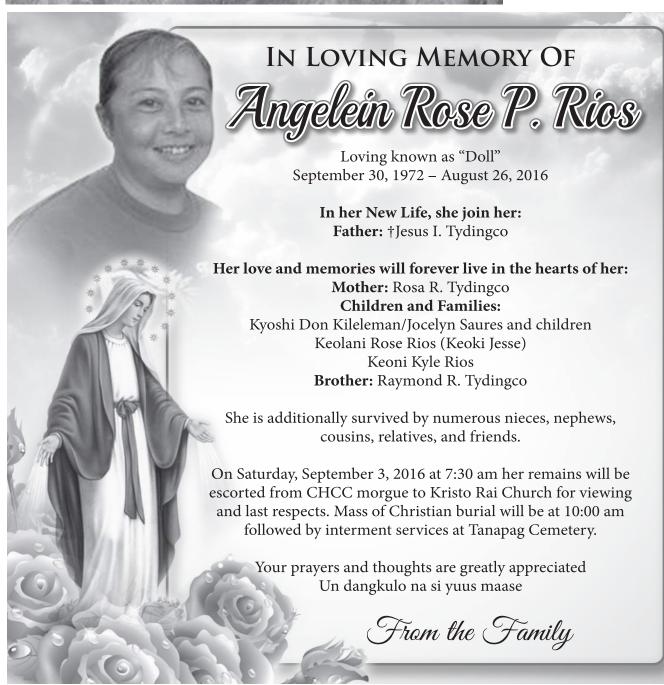
"Avoid drugs at all costs because it could cost your life too," Duterte said, adding that more than 3 million Filipinos are drug addicts.

Criticism by the U.S. government, U.N. rights experts and human rights groups over the drugs killings have provoked angry outbursts from Duterte, who, at one point, threatened to withdraw the Philippines from the U.N.

Duterte said that the world body and the U.S. have failed to prevent genocidal killings in Africa and the Middle East but criticize his crackdown, which targets hardcore criminals who destroy Philippine society.

The U.S. has expressed concern over the extrajudicial killings and urged Duterte's government to ensure law enforcement efforts comply with human rights obligations.

"We are concerned by these detentions, as well as the extrajudicial killings of individuals suspected to be involved in drug activity in the Philippines," U.S. State Department spokeswoman Elizabeth Trudeau said. "We strongly urge the Philippines to ensure its law enforcement efforts comply with its human rights obligations."



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 **29** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Life & Style

Chris Brown faces more legal trouble after police standoff

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It her face after he and another seems Chris Brown can't avoid trouble.

Following a bizarre, hourslong standoff with police, the "Deuces" and "Look At Me Now" singer was arrested Tuesday on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon after a woman called police for help during a gathering at his Los Angeles home.

Model Baylee Curran later told the Los Angeles Times that Brown pointed a gun at

man became angry with her when she admired the man's diamond necklace.

It was the latest run-in with the law for the Grammy-winning Brown, who has been in repeated legal trouble since his felony conviction in the 2009 assault of his then-girlfriend, Rihanna, ahead of the Grammys. He completed his probation last year in that case.

In the Tuesday incident,

Brown was released from jail after posting \$250,000 bail. His arraignment was tentatively set for Sept. 20.

The singer was arrested outside the view of news helicopters that swirled overhead and throngs of camera crews gathered at the bottom of his hilltop estate. It marked the conclusion of a nearly 14-hour standoff and investigation.

Police Lt. Chris Ramirez said officers first responded to Brown's property around

3 a.m. Ramirez did not identify the woman who called, elaborate on the assistance she needed or know if she was injured

Curran told the Times that she and her friend ran from the house and hid under an past and never encountered

SUV as one of Brown's associates gave chase.

The model, who hasn't responded to requests for comment from The Associated Press, told TMZ that she's visited Brown's home in the

A New York Police Department spokeswoman said Curran was wanted for a grand larceny that took place inside the posh Plaza Hotel in October 2013. Authorities had no other details.

Dubai opens massive Marvel-branded indoor theme park

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—As summer temperatures soared outside, the world's largest indoor theme

park, featuring popular Marvel and Cartoon Network-branded rides, opened its doors to the public on Wednesday in the Middle East's tourist hub of Dubai—the latest in a myriad of new attractions here.

The first visitors at the 1.5 million square-foot (140,000 square meters) park reflected the diverse crowds that visit and live in Dubai, home to the world's tallest skyscraper,

the Middle East's largest mall and a man-made island in the shape of a palm tree that is dotted with luxury hotels.

Saudi women dressed in abayas, the traditional loose black robes, and full faceveils, rode alongside tank-top wearing British tourists and Indian families on the park's roller coasters and attractions.

Several families with young children complained that some of the rides stalled. Others said they were thrilled by the adventure park's indoor boulevard, which leads visitors through Marvel and Cartoon Network zones, a "Haunted Hotel" and a Lost Valley Dinosaur zone.

The IMG Worlds of Adventure park recorded about 3,000 visitors on Wednesday as temperatures rose to 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 C) outside.

Ali al-Subai, a visitor from Saudi Arabia, said he was happy the Gulf region has a place like this to visit during the summer. The 26-year-old said he visits Dubai at least four times a year and hopes his country too can one day open similar theme parks.



SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Black Eyed Peas reunite for new 'Where Is The Love?' version

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Black Eyed Peas are reuniting after a five-year hiatus for a new rendition of their song "Where Is The Love?" aimed at ending gun violence. "Where Is The Love?" was originally released in 2003 and reached No. 8 on the Billboard singles chart. Black Eved Peas members will.i.am, apl.de.ap, Taboo and Fergie are joined by such performers as Jamie Foxx, Ty Dolla \$ign, Mary J. Blige, Justin Timberlake and Jaden Smith for the song. A statement says the song and accompanying video scheduled for release Wednesday "calls for calm, asking citizens of the world to stop the hate and violence that has resulted in many lives lost." The proceeds for "#WHERESTHELOVE" will go to the foundation of will.i.am's i.am.angel. The charity funds educational programs and college scholarships.

Jaden and Willow Smith plan to leave world a better place

NEW YORK (AP)—Jaden and Willow Smith thank their famous parents for inspiring them to change the world. The teenage offspring of Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith spoke to singer Pharrell Williams recently for Interview Magazine Eighteen-year-old Jaden tells Williams that he and 15-year-old Willow want to affect the world in a positive way and leave it "better than it was than

when we came." Jaden says he and Willow used to get mad at each other, but don't anymore. Willow says they have realized that each other is the "yin" to their "yang." When asked by Williams where they see themselves in 10 years, Jaden says he'll be "gone." Willow says she'll be "living off the land" and experiencing life "in the most pure, natural way possible."

YouTube star PewDiePie back on **Twitter after ISIS ioke**

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The most popular YouTuber is back on Twitter after joking that his account became unverified because he joined ISIS. Felix "PewDiePie" Kjellberg's Twitter account was briefly suspended this week, and the blue check mark detonating his once-verified status was removed after the YouTube star changed his avatar to an image that could be interpreted as obscene. Kjellberg posted Tuesday on Twitter that he was unverified because he and a friend joined ISIS. He explained in a video posted Wednesday on YouTube that he purposely unverified his account "as a joke" and because he believes the system is annoying. The popular Internet personality has more than 47 million YouTube subscribers and over 7 million Twitter followers. A spokesman for Twitter declined to comment. Kjellberg didn't immediately respond to messages seeking comment.

Relative's incontinence is the elephant in the room

DEAR ABBY: One of my relatives has become incontinent. She leaks badly. Most of the time her pants are wet. When she comes to visit, she doesn't hesitate to sit on my furniture, and when she stands up, she causes a spot on my carpet!

I'm worried my house will start to smell. After she leaves I have to go around spraying and mopping. I'm sure she wears adult diapers because after she leaves we find them in our trash. They are soaked, so I think she probably needs to change more often.

How do I ask her nicely not to sit on my furniture? I would love to suggest having her get medical help, but am afraid she would be insulted and I don't know how to address it. I love her, but not her messes!

GRITTING MY TEETH

DEAR GRITTING: According to the Centers for Disease Control, more than half of seniors are plagued by incontinence. It happens to both sexes, but bladder incontinence happens more often to women. Many seniors find it so embarrassing that they are afraid to discuss it with their doctors.

Because your relative's incontinence is causing you a problem, you must discuss it with her. Say you love her, and encourage her to talk to her doctor by explaining that this is a common problem. A solution might be to buy a plastic slipcover for her favorite chair or have her sit in one that will cause you less of a problem.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a single father of three, the youngest of whom finally left the nest last year. I have spent my adult life raising my sons, who are definitely the truest blessing any man could ever hope to have.

To my dismay, now that I am living alone and see my sons only on weekends, I feel lost. I had all these plans for just such a time, but now I find I have little motivation to do anything. It feels almost as if I have lost my purpose, as though my job is over and I can't find the me I was before I was a father. Please give me some advice.

BARELY BREATHING

DEAR BARELY BREATHING: You appear to be experiencing classic empty nest syndrome. It happens to many parents when their last child leaves home. A way to cope with the emptiness and aimlessness you are feeling would be to talk about it with other family members, or the parents of other young adults who have moved out on their own. It's important that you fill your time with activities you enjoy, and socialize with others so you don't just sit around and brood.

However, because your feelings of sadness and aimless-

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



ness have persisted, I recommend you also discuss them with your doctor to make sure you are not suffering from depression. If it is depression, your doctor can help you.

DEAR ABBY: Can you please help resolve a question once and for all between my husband and me regarding the proper way to eat grapes? My husband will pick individual grapes from a bunch which, in my opinion, leaves the rest looking "moth-eaten" and unappetizing. I prefer to cut a small branch off the bunch, which leaves the grapes looking fresh instead of grazed upon. Who's right?

CARRIE IN MILFORD, MICH.

DEAR CARRIE: You are. But if this is the worst conflict you have in your marriage, consider yourself lucky.

30 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2016 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes





MEAN, OUR LAST ALL-YOU CAN-EAT PLACE CLOSED



By Bill Waterson

Garfield_®







By Jim Davis

Adam@home

SORRY, LAURA. I JUST LOST CONTROL.



BOTTOMLESS

GUT SYNDROME

LAURA. LOOK

IT UP.

The Duplex







By Glenn McCoy

By Eugene Sheffer **CROSSWORD**

IT WAS THE SIREN CALL

OF ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT

ACROSS 43 Sushi fish 3 Mysteri-21 Store 1 Treaties 44 It takes ous boss 6 Can the cake 4 Nest (Abbr.) setting 45 Spud 22 "Xanadu" material 9 Frenzied 47 Heredi-5 Mattress band 12 Baseball brand 24 Packed tarv **6** "I'm 49 Proportion manager away 26 Of cattle 52 Half of bi-Joe all ears 13 Outback 53 Blond 28 Sports bird shade 7 Radio bar fixture 14 Pub order, 54 Buse. host Don 30 Massa-15 More **55 UFO** 8 Sister chusetts 9 San cagey crew cape 16 Wacko 56 Cooking 32 Helter-California skelter 18 Rose fuel parts 57 Pawns 10 Sci-fi 33 Fan's 20 - - dovisitor cry

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38 Made

over

45 Tower 46 Poi base 48 Label 41 Cribbage 50 "Nastv!" Yesterday's answer 9-2

or answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch STUMPED? tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King. Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Salma Hayek, 50; Keanu Reeves, 52; Mark Harmon, 65; Terry Bradshaw, 68.

Happy Birthday: Your desire and determination to reach your goals will lead to a favorable outcome. You can't please everyone, but once you establish what you want to pursue and conquer, it will just be a matter of focus and hard work. Your ability to pay close attention to details will ensure that you prepare for every possibility. Your numbers are 4, 10, 22, 28, 31, 39, 47

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take a serious look at your appearance and how you want to present what you have to offer. A couple of updates will give you the pizzazz you need to catapult into a bigger and better position. Romantic gestures are favored.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will learn by observing what others do. Gather all the information and facts you can and come up with your own plan. Once you head in your own direction, you will be able to avoid interference from others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put on a happy face, do your own thing and focus on your own needs, not what others want you to do. A romantic gesture will help you stabilize a situation that has the potential to spin out of control. Honesty and integrity are encouraged. **00000**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Share emotions and ideas with someone who will be influenced by the choices you make, and you will be able to work your

way through any disagreements you encounter along the way. Reunite with someone from your past. OOOO

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You are best to get any offers in writing. Agreeing to something without proof will end in disappointment. Don't share your ideas without an ironclad contract. You have what it takes to do your own thing and move forward alone.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Attend a function that allows you to network and share ideas and you will gain support regarding a project you want to pursue. Mixing the past with the present will lead to a bright new future. Don't discard what you can recycle.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): An older friend or relative will offer good advice that will help you bring about the changes to your personal life that will lead to greater satisfaction and happiness. Don't procrastinate; follow through with your plans.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your unique approach to whatever you do will draw interest. Stepping outside your comfort zone will lead to personal growth and greater understanding of what you can do to help others. OOOO

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll be led to believe something that isn't true. Before you base your decision

on hearsay, double-check your sources and verify the facts you've been given. An apprenticeship or internship will be an interesting learning experience. 🛇 🖸

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A staycation will give you the opportunity to enjoy your everyday surroundings. Plan activities that bring your family closer together. A different approach to the way you work will give

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put work at mastering your skills and talents in order to put them to good use. Pursuing what you want will also encourage others to reach for the stars. **QQQ**

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Offering to help an organization you want to become more familiar with will result in unexpected favors and incentives. Explore the possibilities and consider forming a partnership with someone who shares your beliefs and interests. QQQ

Birthday Baby: You are responsible, diligent and precise. You are passionate, caring and unpredictable.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ http://bit.ly/exhoro and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

9/02

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Difficulty Level ★★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer									
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Wonderword OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ı	OVERNIGHT SPAS Solution: 7 lett												tters		
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HOUSING CORPORATION

Plaintiff

ANTONIO C. BARCINAS AND

Defendants

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Rockies sputter in 9th, Dodgers rally for 10-8 win



(AP)—Andrew Toles hit

a grand slam with two outs in the ninth inning and the Los Angeles Dodgers overcome a late six-run deficit to beat the Colorado Rockies 10-8 on Wednesday night for a doubleheader split.

Down 8-2, the Dodgers scored three times in the eighth and added five more in the ninth. Toles capped the final inning with an opposefield homer off closer Adam Ottavino (0-1) for his first career slam.

Luis Avilan (1-0) threw a scoreless eighth for the victory. Kenley Jansen pitched the ninth for his 40th save, getting David Dahl on a called third strike to end it.

The Dodgers began their comeback in the eighth with an RBI double from Yasmani Grandal, an RBI single by Joc Pederson and a sacrifice fly by Howie Kendrick. Chase Utley nearly brought in more, sending a two-out grounder up the middle with two on, but DJ LeMahieu ranged to his right, snared the ball and threw Utley out by a step to end the threat. Los Angeles scored once in the ninth on an RBI single from Josh Reddick and then loaded the bases with two outs, setting the stage for Toles.

Cubs 6, Pirates 5

In Chicago, Kris Bryant hit his 36th homer and made three solid plays at third base, helping Jason Hammel and Chicago top Pittsburgh for a threegame series sweep.

Addison Russell had two RBI and an outstanding sliding catch as Chicago equaled the best August in franchise history with a 22-6 record, also accomplished in 1932. It was the Cubs' first time with 22 wins in a month since it went 22-10 in September 1945.



Giants 4, Diamondbacks 2

In San Francisco, Matt Moore struck out seven over 5 1/3 innings for his first career victory at AT&T Park, and San Francisco beat Arizona.

Moore walked off in the sixth to a standing ovation from the sellout crowd. The left-hander had lost his initial two home starts since being acquired from Tampa Bay. Moore (2-3) looked strong in his first game since losing a no-hit bid with two outs in the ninth inning at Dodger Stadium.

Yankees 5, Royals 4, 13 innings

In Kansas City, Brian McCann had a sacrifice fly in the 13th inning and Dellin Betances shut down Kansas City in the bottom half in New York's

Royals reliever Chris Young (3-9) gave up a single to Didi Gregorius and a double to Starlin Castro to lead off the

decisive frame. Matt Strahm came in against McCann for a lefty-lefty matchup, and the New York designated hitter lofted a fly ball to left to score the go-ahead run.

Mets 5, Marlins 2

In New York, Kelly Johnson's three-run double in the eighth inning broke a tie and lifted surging New York over Miami.

Yoenis Cespedes began the rally by singling off reliever A.J. Ramos (1-2). Curtis Granderson walked, and Wilmer Flores flew out to center, advancing a hustling Cespedes to third. After Jay Bruce flew out to right, Travis d'Arnaud walked to load the bases, bringing up Johnson.

Astros 4, Athletics 3

In Houston, Evan Gattis hit an RBI single to cap a threerun rally in the eighth inning keyed by a wild pitch on a strikeout, leading Houston

past Oakland.

Chasing Baltimore for the second AL wild-card slot, Houston swept the three-game series and will open a threegame set Friday at AL Westleading Texas.

Rangers 14, Mariners 1

In Arlington, Rougned Odor homered twice a day after hitting a game-ending shot and Carlos Gomez connected for a grand slam off Felix Hernandez, sending Texas past Seattle for a three-game sweep.

Odor tied a career high with five RBI, and Adrian Beltre and Ryan Rua also homered for the AL West leaders. Texas (80-54) moved a season-high 26 games over .500 with a fifth straight win.

The Rangers matched the 1999 and 2012 Texas teams as the fastest to reach 80 wins.

Red Sox 8, Rays 6

In Boston, Hanley Ramirez hit a grand slam, and Aaron Hill

later sliced an RBI single to break an eighth-inning tie to help Boston beat Tampa Bay.

Jackie Bradley Jr., who had three hits, and Xander Bogaerts each homered for the Red Sox. Dustin Pedroia had three more hits for Boston. The Red Sox had lost five of its previous seven games after moving into a tie for first place in the AL East.

Brewers 3, Cardinals 1

In Milwaukee, Kirk Nieuwenhuis homered, Matt Garza pitched into the eighth inning and Milwaukee beat St. Louis to end a six-game losing streak.

Nieuwenhuis hit a three-run homer off Luke Weaver (1-2) in the third inning.

Garza (5-6) turned in his longest outing of the season, giving up one run and three hits in seven-plus innings while walking two and striking out eight. Tyler Thornburg notched his sixth save in 10 chances.

Nationals 2, Phillies 1

In Philadelphia, Jayson Werth homered and Gio Gonzalez pitched six strong innings to lead Washington to a threegame sweep of Philadelphia.

Wilson Ramos hit the goahead RBI single in the seventh inning to help NL Eastleading Washington set a franchise record with its ninth straight victory over the Phillies. The Nationals remained nine games in front of the second-place New York Mets.

Angels 3, Reds O

In Anaheim, Ricky Nolasco pitched a dynamic four-hitter for his fifth career shutout and his first victory for Los Angeles, leading the Angels to an interleague sweep of Cincinnati.

C.J. Cron drove in two runs.

Colorado Rockies' DJ LeMahieu, front, avoids the tag by Los Angeles Dodgers catcher Carlos Ruiz to score on a double hit by Nolan Arenado in the first inning of the first baseball game of a doubleheader Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2016, in Denver.

The Angels (59-74) have won five straight and eight of 10 to climb out of last place in the AL West.

Los Angeles even won without Albert Pujols and Mike Trout, who weren't in the lineup for an early starting game before the Angels' day off.

Indians 8, Twins 4

In Cleveland, Corey Kluber struck out a season-high 11 and in his seventh straight victory, helping Cleveland hand Minnesota its 13th straight loss -- one shy of tying the club record.

Unbeaten since July 3, Kluber (15-8) allowed three runs and six hits in eight solid innings. The right-hander is 7-0 with a 1.94 ERA in his last 10 starts.

Carlos Santana and Roberto Perez homered off Pat Dean (1-5), and Jose Ramirez hit a two-run double during a fiverun fifth.

Blue Jays 5, Orioles 3

In Baltimore, Jose Bautista homered on the game's first pitch and Russell Martin went deep four batters later in support of Aaron Sanchez, leading Toronto past Baltimore.

Toronto took two of the three games in the pivotal AL East series. The fading Orioles are four games behind the first-place Blue Jays and are tied with Detroit for the second wild card spot.

Sanchez (13-2) was recalled from Class-A Dunedin to make the start.

Tigers 3, White Sox 2

In Detroit, JaCoby Jones doubled twice in his second major league game, then dashed home for the winning run on Tyler Collins' sacrifice fly in the ninth inning to lift Detroit past Chicago.

After a day after doubling, singling and driving in two runs in his debut, Jones scored twice to help the Tigers complete a three-game sweep.

Braves 8, Padres 1

In Atlanta, Matt Wisler had a career-high 10 strikeouts in six innings, Gordon Beckham drove in two runs with a pinch-hit bases-loaded double in the sixth and Atlanta beat San Diego.

The Braves (50-83) no longer have the majors' worst record. Minnesota (49-84) fell below Atlanta with its 13th straight loss, 8-4 to Cleveland.

Players cleared by NFL in PEDs investigation



Julius Peppers can start the regular season without having the specter of a league investigation over whether they used performance-enhancing drugs hanging over their heads.

The NFL cleared all three players on Wednesday, saying there was "no credible evidence" the players were guilty of any of the claims made in a documentary by Al-Jazeera America in January.

An NFL statement said

witness interviews, a review James of relevant records and other Harrison, Clay materials, electronic re- McPhee sent a letter to the view in person, though he Matthews and search, and laboratory analy- NFL earlier this month of acsis and review."

The league threatened Harrison, Matthews, Peppers and free agent Mike Neal with indefinite suspensions if they did not meet with investigators.

All of them were mentioned in an Al-Jazeera television interview with Charlie Sly, who worked as an intern at an anti-aging clinic.

In the December report, Sly made claims of PED use by several athletes, including Harrison, Peyton Manning

"the investigation involved and the three others, but later recanted his claims.

> NFLPA attorney Heather cusing it of trying to "bully and publicly shame" Harrison without offering evidence beyond a brief mention in the Al-Jazeera interview.

McPhee's letter said Harrison would meet with the NFL at 5 p.m. Aug. 30 at the team's facility, and would only discuss the portion of the Al-Jazeera interview that mentioned the 14-year veteran.

The five-time Pro Bowl linebacker initially insisted NFL commissioner Roger Goodell come to Harrison's house to conduct the interlater backed off. Harrison eventually met with the NFL before the league-mandated deadline, as did Matthews and Peppers.

Harrison tweaked the findings of the investigation on Twitter and Instagram late Wednesday.

"It's only breaking news cause you thought I was guilty," Harrison tweeted. "I have my father's name and I have WORKED for EV-ERYTHING I have since DAY ONE."

American qualifier records first upset at US Open

NEW YORK (AP)—The cramping became so debilitating, Milos Raonic said, he couldn't grip his racket properly.

The Wimbledon runner-up just last month, and seeded No. 5 at the U.S. Open, Raonic began to feel pain near his left wrist midway through the second set of what would become a stunning 6-7 (4), 7-5, 7-5, 6-1 second-round loss to 120th-ranked American qualifier Ryan Harrison on Wednesday.

Eventually, the problem spread to Raonic's right forearm. Then both thighs. Then his left hip flexor. Afterward, his back seized up when he tried to sling his equipment bag over a shoulder. No way to try to win a tennis match. Or to serve: That's normally his most effective stroke, yet he double-faulted 15 times.

"It was just catching me all over," Raonic said. "I started getting small (cramps) where I couldn't hold the racket. I couldn't switch grips from one point to the next. There were a few points where I would hold the racket with my left and try to stretch out my right hand in between shots—and that's not going to work."

He was one of a trio of highly seeded players to exit Flushing Meadows on Day 3, although the other departures were less surprising.

No. 3 Garbine Muguruza, the French Open champion, made 38 unforced errors and bowed out 7-5, 6-4 against Anastasija Sevastova at night. All four of Muguruza's U.S. Open appearances have ended in the first or second round. No. 9 Svetlana Kuznetsova, the 2004 champion, took the first four games before losing



6-4, 6-4 to Caroline Wozniacki, who is unseeded but can rely on the muscle memory from two trips to the final in New York.

Later under the lights, the tournament's new, \$150 million retractable roof above Arthur Ashe Stadium was closed during a match for the first time, when there was rain during the second set of Rafael Nadal's 6-0, 7-5, 6-1 victory against Andreas Seppi. With the cover shut, the most noticeable difference was all of the crowd chatter that could be heard during points.

Nadal called the addition of the roof "an unbelievable improvement" at a tournament that for years has been plagued by rain delays. At the end of Nadal's on-court interview, ESPN reporter Tom Rinaldi asked the 14-time major champion if he would try to hit a ball hard enough to touch the roof. Nadal obliged, but couldn't get the ball far enough, then said with a

smile: "Impossible for me."
Raonic was a semifinalist at
Wimbledon in 2014 and at the
Australian Open this January.
Then, while briefly working
with John McEnroe, he beat
Roger Federer in the semifinals at the All England Club
in July to reach his first Grand
Slam final.

"I was my own worst enemy today," Raonic said. "I tried the best I could to find my way out of it. My body didn't let me."

Harrison, meanwhile, finally has the sort of breakthrough victory predicted long ago for him. He entered Wednesday with a 1-26 record for his career against top-10 opponents

The 24-year-old, born in Louisiana and now based in Texas, earned his first trip to the third round at a Grand Slam tournament. He had been 0-6 in second-round matches.

Until Monday, Harrison hadn't won a main-draw match at any major in 3½ years.

"It's mental maturity, a little bit of stabilization with everything around me that is allowing me to play with a sense of calm and also with excitement," said Harrison, who turned pro nearly a decade ago and reached a top ranking of 43rd in 2012. "My personality is a very fiery one. I like to be really intense when I'm competing, flirt with that line of getting so intense that it (was) taking me away from what I was trying to accomplish."

Last week, Harrison and his sibling Christian, 22, became the first pair of brothers to both qualify for the U.S. Open.

"How cool," the older Harrison said, "is it to have him with me at the Open?"

While Christian lost in the first round Tuesday, Ryan took

Ryan Harrison, of the United States, returns a shot to Milos Raonic of Canada during the second round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2016, in New York.

pleasure in being joined in the third round by a couple of other Americans: No. 20 John Isner beat Steve Darcis 6-3, 6-4, 6-7 (10), 6-3, and No. 26 Jack Sock defeated Mischa Zverev 6-1, 6-1, 6-2.

"Good thing for Ryan. He has been around for a while, but he's still very young," Isner said. "Good thing he's figuring it out again."

Harrison certainly was helped by his opponent's problems on a muggy day with the temperature in the mid-80s. But he also played quite cleanly after recovering from a double-fault that ceded the opening set: Harrison finished with 33 unforced errors, one in the last set. Raonic's total was 62, 21 in the third set alone.

"I didn't create this pressure for myself or this kind of stress on myself," Raonic acknowledged. "He did that."

After Harrison hit a forehand passing winner to break for a 5-1 lead in the fourth set, Raonic looked exhausted, resting both arms on his knees and leaning on his racket for support.

Harrison next faces 44thranked Marcos Baghdatis, the 2006 Australian Open runner-up.

Baghdatis eliminated 32nd-seeded Benoit Paire of France 6-2, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.

"Not really a whole lot of time for reflection in this sport, because things change so quickly," Harrison said. "You play a bad match on Friday, all of a sudden today's win feels a long way's away."



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Excited Lakers provide early look at new training center

Calif. (AP)—After Kobe Bryant's retirement and the worst season in team history, the Los Angeles Lakers' quest to rebuild a championship franchise is finally beginning in

Seems like the perfect time to get excited about moving into a shiny new home.

The Lakers provided an early look at their \$80 million training complex Wednesday while announcing a naming rights deal with UCLA Health, the multi-hospital academic medical center. Just eight months after construction began in earnest, the Lakers are on schedule to open the 120,000-square-foot UCLA Health Training Center during the 2017 offseason.

"This was really an effort to make sure we had not only everything we needed, but also everything we were going to need in the future," Lakers President Jeanie Buss said.

The Lakers will spend the next year just two blocks away at the Toyota Sports Center, their home since February 2000, before moving into the state-of-the-art complex in El Segundo, near Los Angeles International Airport.

Coach Luke Walton and the Lakers' last three draft classes also took a break from working out down the street to tour the complex. D'Angelo Russell, Brandon Ingram, Julius Randle, Jordan Clarkson, Larry Nance Jr., Ivica Zubac and Anthony Brown all donned hard hats, fluorescent orange vests and safety goggles to check out the concrete-and-drywall shell of their new home.

"We have a place that players will want to come into,"

but anything is possible when

players play hard and are de-

termined to win," said Lydia

Tan, MP United's representa-

tive to Vivid Blue FC's 10th

MP United FC will be gun-

ning for its third champion-



Los Angeles Lakers Chief Operating Officer Tim Harris announces a naming rights partnership for the new Lakers state-of-the-art future home, the UCLA Health Training Center, during a news conference in El Segundo, Calif., Wednesday, Aug 31, 2016. The Lakers provided an early look at their \$80 million training complex Wednesday while announcing its naming rights deal with UCLA Health, the multihospital academic medical center.

said Walton, the former Lakers forward, who recalled hour-long waits to use the single-person ice baths at their current training complex. "It's a place that offers the best of everything, all the best capabilities. It's a part of creating that culture that you want for a franchise. It's nice to have this place in our future."

Although none of the Lakers' youngsters has known any home except their current cramped quarters, they were still impressed by the project centered around a large gym that will also house the team's D-League affiliate.

The Lakers' players will have a spacious weight room and locker room along with three rehab pools, a cryogenics chamber, a theater, a

ship in the Pacific Ocean Cup

6. The club got its first in the

2013 edition of the tourna-

ment after beating Vivid Blue

in a shootout, 3-1, at the Gara-

pan Elementary School Field.

Nagaoka SSS won the inaugu-

ral Pacific Oceania Cup after

dominating MPU in the 2012

In 2014, the tournament

was held twice with Vivid

finale, 5-1.

lounge, a large kitchen and a barbershop.

"It's more than helpful," Russell said. "With the 82game season, that's wear and tear on your body. It starts with rehab and trying to keep your body 100 percent at every practice."

The Lakers are an iconic sports brand, but their home base has never had the grandeur of their reputation.

The Showtime teams of the 1980s were forced to be nomadic, usually practicing at recreational centers or col-

Shortly after the Lakers moved their games from the run-down Forum to the utilitarian Staples Center downtown in 1999, they leased half of a sprawling recreational

Blue and MPU splitting the

wins. Vivid Blue topped the

round-robin Pacific Ocean

Cup 3 held in Japan, while

MPU shut down its sister club,

3-0, in the Pacific Ocean Cup

complex in El Segundo for their training headquarters. They still share the Toyota Sports Center with the NHL's Los Angeles Kings, who have public ice skating rinks in the noisy building.

The Lakers have practice courts and rudimentary training facilities, but the cramped confines forced them to move several business departments to another office building down the street.

"A couple of years ago, we realized that as we grew, we needed to find a new facility," Lakers chief operating officer Tim Harris said. "We wanted to build our own facility and have our own identity. ... We want players to treat this place like a second home."

Buss has already made

MP United decided to host friendly games. The tournament then returned early this year with Paire FC ruling Pacific Ocean Cup 5 that took place at the Navy Hill Field last March. Paire stole the championship after pulling off a 4-2 upset in a shootout against MPU Blue. Vivid Blue finished third in the Pacific Ocean Cup 5.

4 that Saipan hosted. There was no tournament in 2015, as some of the two clubs' players were in school and instead of holding the Pacific Ocean Cup,

> 11am (1pm Saipan Time) at the Luneng Football School

> The Taketomo Suzukito the finale.

one executive decision: Just of her office, which will still as they do in the old training complex, the 11 shiny Larry O'Brien trophies won during the Lakers' Los Angeles tenure will still sit in the window

overlook the practice court.

"It's so the players will always be reminded of the work they need to do to reach that," she said with a smile.

Opening of MIBF outdoor caging moved to Sept. 10

The Mariana Islands Bas- (40 years old and above). ketball Federation will kick off the Inaugural Men's each division) to register and Outdoor League on Sept. 10 instead of this Monday at the San Antonio basket-

ball court. changed to give way to repair works at the venue.

All interested teams are asked to be present at the final meeting scheduled for September 8 at 5:30pm at the Gilbert C. Ada conference room.

The league will have two divisions: open and masters Only the first 10 teams (in

complete the league's requirements will be allowed to play. Entry fee is \$400.

MIBF is looking to The kickoff date was hold games in the open division on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays with two matches set for every playing day. Masters games are likely to be played every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

> For more information, contact Preston Basa at 989-2516 or Boy Garcia at 989-6386. **(PR)**



JP World's Lerio Pagarao pulls up for a shot against CES Electronics' White Capalad during their game in the DL caging at the San Antonio court, which will be the venue of the MIBFsanctioned outdoor league that will start next Saturday.

anniversary celebration this Saturday.

MPU

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stages of our training session. I asked them how they learned those skills and they said during their lunch break they kicked and passed round," Angeles said.

"We just need to polish their skills and strengthen their fundamentals. The last few weeks of our training session were also focused on team

play, helping each other to make things work," the mentor added.

The Commonwealth's U14 squad is composed of captains John Michael Rojas and Sebastien Manabat, Mark Salamat, Kirt Andon, Ichiro Borja, Terrence Montenegro, John Guiller Canape, Jamin Elliot, Edward Cho, Mark Esalan, Joshua Waldon, Brandon Delos Reyes, Christian Aldan, Kirro Batino, Thomas Benavente, John Paul Cruz, Joshua Mendez, and Eun Syu Hahn. Completing the group are assistant coach Wai Wo Lee, NMIFA technical director and head of delegation Kiyoshi Sekiguchi, and physiotherapist Jungsang Park.

Meanwhile, the CNMI U16 Girls National Team will play their last game in Group B of the qualifier tomorrow when it takes on India at in Weifang, China.

coached squad had its penultimate match vesterday, falling to South Korea, 0-11, to remain at the bottom of the team standings with its 0-0-3 mark. South Korea improved to a 2-0-0 record to tie the Philippines and boosted its chances to win the group and the slot

TENNIS

From Page 36

majority of them—either made 510, and Vanuatu with 495. I it to the quarterfinals or semis of their respective events. The pairs of Malika Miyawaki and Conatsu Kaga and Ji Min Woo and Seung Jin Paik finished second in the girls U14 and boys U12 doubles, respectively, while Heras placed third in the girls U16 singles.

"Isabel, Conatsu, Malika, and Coume won against higher seeded players and Ji Min and Seung Jin delivered in the doubles. They gave us points that helped us beat Tahiti," said Race.

"It was a close fight after the singles matches with us having 555 points, Tahiti with am glad we were able to pull it through," he added.

Despite their recent POJC conquest, the CNMI will not rest on its laurels. Race said they will be back to the drawing board to prepare for next season.

"At the end of the season, we make an assessment of our performance. We look into each player's strengths and weaknesses and see what we can do to help them get better next time," the CNMI Sports Hall of Famer said.

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2016 Endless Summer Beach Volleyball Classic Winners

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Winners in the 4-person division of the 2016 Endless Summer Beach Volleyball Classic pose for a photo at the conclusion of last Sunday's competition at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.



The Bold Guys and the Girl players, who won first place in the 4-person contest, join tournament organizer Russ Quinn, center, for a photo.



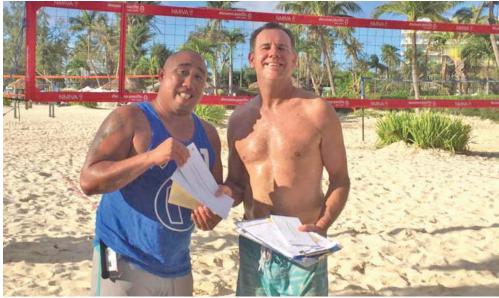
Can You Dig It members pose with their runner-up prize



Team Birru members are all smiles after getting their third place prize.



Tournament volunteers, NMIVA president Laurie Peterka, left, and tournament director Russ Quinn, third left, smile for a photo.



Dave Rillera, left, and Russ Quinn, show their runner-up prize in the 2-person contest.



The Top 3 finishers in the women's 2-person competition pose for a group photo.



The Top 3 finishers in the men's 2-person competition gather for a photo.



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Rockies sputter in 9th, **Dodgers rally** for 10-8 win

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American qualifier records first upset at US Open

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Jr. tennis players reign supreme

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER

fter topping the 2016 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji, it is just fitting that the CNMI Junior National Tennis Team be recognized at home.



The squad named Team of the Month (for Au-

gust), while two of its members—Carol Lee and Robbie Schorr-were selected Student Athletes of the Month last night during the monthly meeting of Northern Marianas Sports Association at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gym. Completing the team are players Ken Song, Sean Lee, Malika Miyawaki, Asia Raulerson, Conatsu and Coume Kaga, Marie Gregoire, Ji Min Woo, Seung Jin Paik, Michael Ren, Vincent Tudela, Isabel Heras, and Tania Tan, and coach Jeff Race.

Race's wards collected 685 points in the singles and doubles competitions of the POJC to beat back-to-back champions (2014 and 2015) and powerhouse Tahiti and 12 other island nations. Tahiti gained 660 to drop to second this year.

Carol and Schorr delivered the most points for the CNMI. as they ruled both the singles and doubles events in their respective age groups. Carol swept Fiji's Vienna Kumar in the girls U16 singles finals, 6-1, 6-2, before teaming up with Isabel Heras in downing Kumar and Ruby Coffin in the doubles finals, 6-2, 6-2.

Schorr duplicated Carol's feat after surviving Tahiti's Vaitea Molinier in the supertiebreaker third set, 6-2, 6-7, 10-5, in the boys U14 singles title match. In the doubles finals, Schorr partnered with Ken Song and they prevailed against Molinier and compatriot Brendon Fong, 6-2, 6-2.

The other CNMI players—

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Vincent Tudela played for the CNMI Junior National Tennis Team that topped the 2016 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships held in Fiji last month.



CNMI U14 team heads to Beijing for AFC festival

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER

With the CNMI U16 Girls National Team almost done

in its campaign in the AFC U16 Women's Championships 2017 Qualifier, it's now the CNMI U14B Boys National Team's turn

to take the center stage when it competes in the 2016 AFC U14 Festival next week.

The Jershwin Angelescoached U14 crew will leave Saipan for Beijing, China this Sunday to play against four other teams in the festival

"There are 10 countries in the festival and most likely, they will be divided into two groups so we are guaranteed of four matches," Angeles said during a send-off ceremony for both the U14 and U16 teams last week at Kanoa Resort.

Angeles added they don't know yet which countries they will be facing in Beijing

as the draw will only take place during the manager's meeting next week.

"If we will be grouped with Guam and Macau, our

> plan is to balance attacking and defending. We've beaten these teams before so we have a good chances of win-

ning against them again. We're also hoping to win or have a close game against Chinese-Taipei and Hong Kong. Against the stronger countries, we will be focusing on defense so we can limit their production," Angeles said.

The CNMI U14 team has 11 players who will be competing in the AFC for the first time and Angeles believes their skills will compensate for their lack of experience.

"Half of these newcomers are highly skilled. I was really surprised with what they showed us during the early

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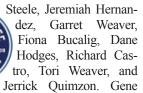
MPU joins Pacific Ocean Cup 6 in Japan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn monroyo@saipantribune.com

MP United Football Club's U12 players and officials left Saipan yesterday to compete

in the Pacific Ocean Cup 6 that will be held at the Numazu Seibu Grounds in Numazu, Japan.

The club's U12 team is composed of Richard





Weaver is the squad's coach,

while Randy Steele and Lisa

Castro are the team manager

MPU U12 will play

against four other teams

in the Pacific Ocean Cup 6 that will be played on Sept. 4. The visiting club will be challenging the host and its

and assistant, respectively.

MPU United players and officials pose for a photo at the departure area of the Saipan International Airport before they head to Japan to compete in the Pacific Ocean Cup 6.



Kirt Andon, left, seen here playing in a local tournament early this year, is a member of the CNMI U14 National Team that will participate in the 2016 AFC Festival this week in Beijing, China.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO